THE HINDOO PATRIOT

With which is incorporated the Indian Field.

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THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 9TH SEPTEMBER.

TH MYSTERIOUS author of the "Political adventures of Lord Beaconsfield" in the *Fortnightly Review* gives the following hits to Lord Salisbury:

By remaining in the Cabinet after the retirement of Lord Carnarvon and Lord Derby, Lord Salisbury has probably secured for himself the reversion of the Premiership. To rise very high, he has stooped very low, and he may find it necessary to stoop lower yet. He has apparently adopted to the full those ethics of political adventure which he once denounced in the bitterest and the most scornful language and in which he foresaw the degradation of English public life through the lowering of the character of English public men. In the controversy which followed his secession from Lord Derby's administration in 1867, he pointed to the character and conduct of Lord Beaconsfield as of evil omen to England. Lord Beaconsfield smiled then; he has better reason for smiling now. The bitter assailant has become the humble disciple; the scandalised moralist has been the adroit abettor, and imitator. The legerdemain of the secret agreement with Russia, balanced by the secret convention with Turkey, was not a combination of a very high intellectual order; but it showed a superiority to moral scruples, to which happily it is difficult to find a parallel in English diplomacy. The British Plenipotentiaries at the Congress were playing with cards in their sleeves. Lord Salisbury has acquired Lord Beaconsfield's art of answering, using words in a double sense, one intended to reassure his hearers at the moment; the other, when the trick comes to light, to furnish a justification for himself. His denial of dissensions in the Cabinet and his repudiation of the *Globe* copy of the Anglo-Russian agreement, were conveyed in words which meant one thing to him and another to his hearers. His contradiction of Lord Derby's statement as to his motives in quitting office requires to be taken therefore, with the greatest reserve. Henceforward, indeed, Lord Salisbury's statement will need an interpretation clause, such as is found in Acts of Parliament, determining that such and such a term shall be taken in such and such a meaning. Lord Salisbury has made a sacrifice of political character to his political fortunes. He will probably find before long that even from the point of view of personal ambition only, he has made a mistake which it will take many years to repair.

We have greatly enjoyed the above. Now, taking personalities for personalities we put it to the reader whether in this matter the imperfectly educated vernacular press of India is worse than the highly educated English Press.

MR. GOLDWIN SMITH writes to the New York *Nation* a letter with reference to what he calls "the august but burglarious conclave of Berlin," which he further describes as a "European Areopagus, to which none are admitted but the representatives of brute force, and to which each Areopagite comes with a mask on his face, a revolver in his pocket, and a lie in his right hand." He concludes by saying, "That general morality has greatly advanced in Europe since the middle of the seventeenth century cannot be doubted; but it may be doubted whether, at the time of the Treaty of Westphalia, diplomatic villany was greater or more unabashed than it is now." Mr. Goldwin Smith is an Oxford Professor, but not a Professor of Manners.

THE QUESTION having been generally asked why Lord Salisbury was entitled to the Garter, a poetic M. P. supplied the following metric doggerel:—

Lord Salisbury the Garter has adopted;
Why do you grumble, cynics, as you read?
Was it not Lady Salisbury who dropped it?
Then *Honi soit qui maly pense* indeed.

THE VALUE of cotton exported from India during the ten months ending July last, fell considerably below 8 crores of rupees. For the same period of last year, the amount was roughly, 9½ crores; for the ten months of 1875-76, 10½ crores; 1874-75, 14½ crores. In Bengal the amount has fallen since last year from 72 lakhs to less than 11 lakhs; in Bombay from 840½ lakhs to 720½ lakhs.

THE FORTY-EIGHTH session of the British Association was opened at Dublin by the delivery by Mr. Wm. Spottiswoode of the presidential address. The President dealt specially with the present relations of mathematical science to physical and speculative research.

THE PROPOSITION of the United States to hold a monetary conference to settle the question of the relations of gold and silver, has been accepted by France, Belgium, Switzerland, Italy, Greece, Holland, Austria, Russia, and England. Germany may also take part in its discussion, but this is not certain.

TUESDAY, 10TH SEPTEMBER.

SIR AUSTEN LAYARD'S lead in trying to obtain special concessions for the Euphrates Valley scheme is being followed up by M. Fournier, the French Ambassador, who is pressing the Sultan to grant special privileges for a line which the French company—the Messageries Maritime—are supposed to favour. Will this enterprise like the Suez Canal be left to the French?

THE ROTHSCHILDS are said to have taken up the proposal for a railway from Constantinople to Bagdad by way of Diarbeker. The initial step of that undertaking will be the despatch of a surveying expedition, and the English and Turkish Governments either have been or are to be asked to defray half the cost of that expedition.

HER MAJESTY'S PRIVY COUNCIL consists at the present moment of two hundred and seven members. Of these, five are princes of the blood royal, eleven are dukes, nine marquises, thirty-two earls, nine viscounts, thirty barons, twelve younger sons of dukes, or marquises, seven younger sons of other peers, and thirteen baronets. Nine other members are in the succession to titles. Thus the proportion of "noble" to commoner members is one hundred and thirty-seven to seventy, or as nearly as possible two to one. In the Cabinet the proportion is three to one, if we include Lord Beaconsfield and Cairns, and seven to five if we do not.

A POLITICAL PROPHECY.—In a speech by Mr. Disraeli, delivered in the House of Commons, February 28, 1859, the following passage occurs:—"If this House loses its hold over the Executive of the country, what happens? We fall back on a bureaucratic system, and we should find ourselves, after all our struggles, in the very same position which in 1640 we had to extricate ourselves from. Your administration would be carried on by a Court Minister, perhaps a Court minion."

TWO EUROPEAN females have been appointed ticket-collectors on the Nizam's State Railway.

THE SHAH OF Persia proposes to have his army re-organised on the Austrian model, and the Emperor of Austria has lent him the services of General Rothmund for the purpose.

EARL RUSSEL'S personal estate was sworn under £80,000. All his political papers are left to the Hon. G. F. S. Elliot, to dispose of as he may deem fit.

THE ANGLO-INDIAN GUARDIAN has the following: "The *Indian Daily News* points out that the head-quarter offices of the Public Works Department are stocked with well-paid appointments the principal work of the incumbents of which must be to sign their names, draw their salaries, and, let us add, fine their subordinates for indolence. The growth of luxurious sinecures is the common characteristic of all excessively centralised governments: and the allegory which has usually been dragged in to illustrate the situation, is that of a body whose extremities are paralysed in consequence of a general determination of blood to the head."

SOME INTERESTING experiments with the telephone were lately carried on between Bangalore and Bellary by Mr. Winter of the Madras Railway. A telephone was connected with the telegraph wires at the above stations, which are 190 miles apart. After some little practice, a conversation was kept up without much effort.

WEDNESDAY, 10TH SEPTEMBER.

THE SECRETARY of State has expressed his approval of the instructions given by the Government of India to the Famine Commission. But Lord Cranbrook, with that nice discernment which has hitherto enabled him to hit on the most important points of any matter submitted for his approval—wishes emphasis to be laid on the following question:—"Under what special circumstances should aid be refused to persons seeking labour relief, whose position in life and outward appearance might justify the suspicion that they are able, wholly or partially, to maintain themselves?"

THE MUNICIPALITY seems to be the engine of oppression everywhere. The Rangoon Municipality have been getting a wigging from the Recorder. In a case which came before him, he remarked that their action had been most harsh and inequitable throughout. To recover a tax of some seven or eight rupees, they had sold a man's house over his head; and when the purchaser, who had paid a large sum for it, asked for possession of the property, they tried to shelter themselves from their illegal act by giving him a receipt that he had bought "the right, title and interest" only of the defaulting tax-payer. Such proceedings could not be defended, and the amount of the decree passed in the civil suit in favour of the purchaser of the house would be paid to him at once.

IN THE *Annalen der Hydrographie* there is an account of a group of three islands discovered by Capt. Caller in 1877, on the north-west coast of Australia. These islands, which in their highest point do not rise more than thirty feet above the level of the sea, are covered with a thick deposit of guano, containing an unusual amount of ammonia and phosphates. On account of their nearness to the continent, these valuable deposits will probably play an important part in the agricultural development of Australia.

IT APPEARS there is a project on foot for growing apples in the North-West Provinces on a large scale. In America, in Ohio especially, apples grow in abundance enough to be almost a food staple. "If Kumaon can grow apples like this," says the correspondent of a contemporary, "why does it not do so on a large scale and supply Barreilly with dried pippins when the local rice refuses to come out? The Commissioner of Kumaon has allotted or is about to allot to the undertaking certain appropriate ground at Ranikhet, and the plantations in the beginning will be managed by the Director of Agriculture."

THE AMERICANS spend a good deal of money upon their agricultural colleges. California receives annually for her agricultural colleges, 45,000 dollars; New York comes next, owing to the management of Mr. Cornell, and the university named after him receives annual interest, or has been in receipt of it, to the amount of 35,000 dollars; the Iowa State agricultural college follows with 34,822 dollars; while Massachusetts, which has been looked upon as possessing the model institution, has had to divide her 12,000 dollars between the agricultural college at Amherst and the institute of Technology at Boston in the proportion of 8,000 dollars to the former and 4,000 to the latter. India, though an agricultural country, has no agricultural college, except the one in Madras.

MAHARAJAH PERTAB SING, brother of the Maharajah of Jodhpore, has been invited to join the Personal Staff of Sir Neville Chamberlain, on the mission to Cabul. The Maharajah, who comes of an ancient Rajpoot family, and is a fine horseman, and excels in most manly sports, accepted the invitation with alacrity. The uncle of the Nawab of Tonk also accompanies the Embassy.

IN THE Ferozepore district the rise of the Sutlej has once more broken the head-works of the Inundation Canals, and over 100 square miles of land are under water. The damage done to property has been great. On the other hand, a heap of treasure has been discovered by the floods in the old fort of Mumdote, a few miles from Ferozepore.

THURSDAY 11TH SEPTEMBER.

A CONTAI CORRESPONDENT complains that under the system in force people serving Government in the interior at stations other than the district towns are put to no end of inconvenience and trouble on account of the delay which occurs in the receipt of their pay. The delay arises from the dilatoriness on the part of the Treasury officers at the head-quarter station in enfacing the bills and sending them to the sub-divisional officer. If bills after considerable suspense are received, they are received either in an incomplete state or their payment is deferred because the sub-divisional officer is absent on tour. The last difficulty may be overcome by the appointment of a sub-deputy Collector especially at Contai. Contai labors under another disadvantage. It is the want of currency notes for moffusil remittances, which are not available either for love or money. There is no money order agency at Contai, and if such an office be opened it may go a great way to obviate the inconvenience complained of.

A CORRESPONDENT writing from Boda in the Julpigoree district says that the copious rainfall

with which this part of the country has been favored has done much to facilitate the sowing of paddy. The prospect of the winter crops are good. He further writes that Boda is an important place in the Julpigoree district, which had a Moonsiff's Court that existed for more than 25 years and was abolished about 9 or 10 years ago. People have now to go to Julpigoree a distance of 30 miles for the adjudication of petty cases. The cries of the people for the re-opening of the Boda Court have met with no attention, though it had been always paying and may prove remunerative again, while the suitors will be relieved of great hardship and expense.

WE UNDERSTAND that the Secretary of State has sanctioned the arrangements proposed by the Governments of India of the appointment of Press Commissioner.

THE LAST number of the *Indian Charivari* has a capital cartoon shewing "Austrian occupation" of Bosnia and Herzegovina, with the umbrella of the Berlin Treaty unfurled over Austria's head, riggled with bullets and bayonets, and the following exclamation inscribed below:—"Well, they guaranteed the umbrella at Berlin, and now look at it! I wish I was well out of this." The other illustrations in this number are good.

IT IS SAID that a man, who gives out that he is the grandson of Maharaja Runjit Singh, has been visiting several districts on a swindling excursion. He invites people to play at cards with him, and by a system of card sharping he invariably wins the game after the ninth round. He travels like a great "bahadur" having a dewan and a private secretary to accompany him. It is stated that he was once tried for cheating at Puri. He has now proceeded towards N. W. P. and Oudh. Mr. Monro has had his photograph taken, which is now in circulation among district officers.

THE BEHAR HERALD protests that his reporter is not admitted to the meetings of the Patna Municipality. We are of opinion that the Government should issue an order directing that the Municipal meetings except when there is transacted any thing of a specially confidential nature should be invariably thrown open to the public.

THE FOLLOWING appears in a Bombay paper:

"I don't know if you have heard that the *Times* is subsidized to mislead English opinion by always looking at Indian affairs through official spectacles. Those long Calcutta telegrams it publishes every Monday morning are, by special arrangement, transmitted over the wires at a reduced tariff of one-fourth of the ordinary rates. I happen to know that one proprietor of an Indian newspaper has tried for a whole year to get a similar concession from Government, and has simply been referred from the India Office to the Government of India and from the Government of India back to the India Office, without ever getting a distinct answer to his application. This game of battledore and shuttle-cock is still going on, though the shuttle-cock is naturally growing a little tired of it, and it is evident that special reasons exist for granting a boon to the *Times* which is denied to the rest of the Press. Those reasons may be easily guessed by any one who has studied the *Times'* telegrams, and has noticed how artfully they are compiled to further the views of the Indian Government and throw discredit on every form of popular opposition to its policy. As soon as these telegrams reach London leading articles in a similar sense are written for the *Times* by some of the literary *attachee* of the India Office, and the substance of these leaders is telegraphed out here again as English Public opinion, drawn from the pure and undefiled source of honest and independent journalism."

Is this true? If not, the Government ought to contradict the statement.

A CORRESPONDENT sojourning in the Upper Provinces writes that in places near Bharutpore, Futtehpore, and Jeypore the poor are so hard up for food that no traveller or pilgrim dares cook his food in a serai or at any place on the road-side without the cooked food being robbed by half-a-dozen famishing men and women.

FRIDAY, 13TH SEPTEMBER.

THE LAHORE paper repeats a rumour from Oudh that Sir George Couper is to be removed from his Lieutenant-Governorship, and Sir E. Bayley will come out to succeed him. Sir Edward Bayley will be no improvement. He is an old woman.

THE LATEST news about the Maharaja of Kuch Behar is that he paid a visit to Glasgow, where the Lord Provost shewed him the lions of the place. From thence he was going on to Perthshire, where he had rented a shooting lodge.

WE ARE glad to learn that Sir Edwin Johnson's health had so much improved by the time he reached Suez as to justify the hope that he will be able to return to India on the expiration of his leave.

THE COMMITTEE of the Parkes' Memorial Fund offer a prize of one hundred pounds and a gold medal for the best essay "On the effects of hygienic measures in arresting the spread of cholera." The competition is open to the medical officers of the Army, Navy and Indian Services of executive rank on full pay. The essays are to be sent in before the 31st December 1880. We hope Dr. Payne will compete and recommend his infallible remedy of tank-filling.

THE LAST *Illustrated London News* contains a sketch of the decoration to be worn by the members of the Order of the Indian Empire. It consists of a gold badge in the form of a rose, enamelled red charged with India in gold letters (a letter on each leaf) having in the centre, within a circle enamelled purple, on which is inscribed in gold letters "Victoria Empress," a portrait of Her Majesty ensigned by the Imperial Crown in gold. This badge is worn pendant from an imperial purple ribbon, attached by a gold brooch at the top.

THE DAY for the departure of the Overland Mail from Calcutta will be changed this month, the last Tuesday mail being sent off on the 17th instant, and the first Friday Mail on the 27th instant.

PROFESSOR GOLDSTUCKER'S Sanskrit Grammar, which he left nearly ready for the press, has, it is stated, been taken in hand by an old pupil of his, who has very full notes of the Professor's lectures.

IT IS stated that Mr. C. J. O'Donnell of the Indian Civil Service, at present officiating Joint-Magistrate of Sewan, and brother of the member for Dungarvan, will offer himself as a Home Rule candidate for the county of Clare at the next general election.

ACCORDING to *Vanity Fair* preparations for a resumption of hostilities were being pushed at Constantinople with feverish haste. Immense quantities of guns and ammunition were being daily landed from America, and recruits were pouring in from Anatolia. The same journal states that the Russian forces in Bulgaria had been increased by eight thousand men. Is there to be a second Russo-Turkish war? We hope not, for then Turkey is sure to lose its place on the map of Europe.

SATURDAY, 14TH SEPTEMBER.

WHAT DOES the word "Jingo" mean? Mr. Isaac Taylor thus explains it. He says that the word means "God" in the Basque language, and is used by the Basques as a common adjuration. It probably came through Basque sailors, being at first a nautical oath. The dialectic forms of the word are given as Jingo, Jinco, Jainco, Jaincoa, Gincoa, Yinko and Yainko, It is an error to suppose that the imprecation, "you be jiggered," has any connection with the adjuration "By Jingo." To be "jiggered" is an importation from the West Indies and refers to the suffering caused by the *chigoe* insect, which burrows in the feet of the barefoot Negroes.

WE TAKE the following elegant extract from the *Pioneer*, which occurs in its London letter:

"The Czar is a loathsome scoundrel, like the most of his officers, hardly clean enough to be spit upon; and I only do not wish another Vera Sassulitch would treat him as his favorite General Trepoff was treated, because among such a pack of wretches as the Russian ruling classes the probability is the successor would be as bad or worse."

And the *Pioneer* is the loudest in censuring the Vernacular Press for uncouth language. Physician, heal thyself!

MR. FAWCETT presented the Bombay petition to the House of Commons on the Civil service question, praying (1) that the maximum age of candidates eligible for open competition for the Covenanted Civil Service of India be raised to twenty-two years; (2) that, simultaneously with the open competition in London, an examination should be held in India for a fixed proportion of appointments, the successful candidates being required afterwards to proceed to England to prosecute their further studies in association with their British colleagues; (3) that the list of subjects prescribed for the examination be so re-arranged as to accommodate itself to the Indian University system of education in the same manner as it is accomodated to the system of University education in the United Kingdom. No discussion followed the presentation of this petition.

AT A MEETING held at the Mansion House a few days since it was reported that during 1876, no less than 5,588 women were committed for drunkenness in the Westminister Prison alone, of whom some had been convicted 100 times. We again ask what are the school-mistress and priest doing?

LORD NORTHBROOK presided at the distribution of prizes to the students of the Dulwich College. His Lordship thus defended the competitive system of examination for the Indian Civil Service:

He was, as might be expected, particularly interested in the Indian Civil service. A few years ago, when he was in India, the Government were asked to give an opinion as to the success or otherwise of the competitive examinations which were instituted some twenty years ago for the Civil Service of the country. The Government of India expresed an opinion that the young men who were obtained for the service of the country were admirably suited for the duties which they had to perform. He could not say that the men appointed by means of competitive examination were superior to some of those splendid administrators who had in the first instance been appointed by nomination under the rule of the East India Company; but he could say that under the present *regime* there were fewer of what were known as "hard bargains" than were to be found in the service under the old system. He did not in any way wish to decry the usefulness of special teachers, by some called "crammers—who prepared young men specially for the Indian Civil Service, but he much preferred that men should go into the service from a college like that of Dulwich where they were not only highly educated, but gained a high moral training which could only result from association with their fellows and with masters such as those of whom Dulwich could boast.

THE ROYAL HUMANE SOCIETY have issued a notice warning bathers not to enter the water within two hours after a meal, or when exhausted by fatigue, or from any other cause, or when the body is cooling after perspiration. The strong and vigorous, we are told, may bathe early in the morning with an empty stomach; the young, and those who are weak, had better bathe two or three hours after breakfast. In India the people always bathe with an empty stomach.

MR. STANHOPE, Under-Secretary of State, said, in answer to Mr. M'Cullagh Torrens: "The arrangements have been long in progress for restoring native rule in Mysore in compliance with the despatch of April 16, 1867 and, though delayed by the famine, will be completed in all material respects by the time the Maharajah attain his majority." We are glad to see that the Government is really in earnest about the Mysore Restoration.

WE HAVE had before us proofs of "Notes on Cowper's Table Talk with a life of the poet and criticisms on the poem—also question papers for home exercise and index of all the important words used in the poem, compiled by Sureshchandra Dev." We are opposed to compilations of this kind, which are simply aids to cram. Apart from this objection, the compilation before us has been well executed. The notes are copious and correct.

THE DEATHS in Calcutta during the week ending 7th September were 271 or 10 in excess of the same of the week preceding, of which 6 were from small-pox, 103 from fever, 35 from diarrhœa and dysentery, 15 from cholera, 33 from tetanus and the rest from other causes, 14 children were still-born and three persons died from old age. There were 12 deaths among non-Asiatics and mixed races from twelve different causes.

BABU TARENDRANATH CHATTERJI, a great grandson of the late Babu Chandrakumar Tagore of Pathuriaghatta, has left for England. It is said he intends studying for the Bar.

THE APPEAL of Benigopal Mookerjea, late head clerk of the Road Cess Department, Nuddea, to the High Court against the sentence of the Sessions Judge, condemning him to transportation for life, was disposed of to-day, Justices Markby and Prinsep presiding. Mr. Branson, who appeared for the prisoner, did not question the justice of the verdict of the jury, but dwelt on the severity of the sentence passed on him and prayed for mercy. Their Lordships commuted the sentence of transportation for life to fourteen years' rigorous imprisonment.

WE THANK Mr. Frederic Algar of the Colonial Newspaper Agency, Lombard Street, London, for a copy of his list of the principal colonial newspapers, including those of the continent of Europe and the United States. The list is full and ought to be kept by those, who wish to be supplied with colonial papers. The list includes India.

WE ARE sorry to learn that great distress prevails in some of the villages in the southern tract of 24-Pergunnahs, *viz.*, Kardanga, Sonamuki and Ganai. In some cases the distress we are told is so great that it is bordering on starvation. We hope the attention of the local authorities will be directed to the condition of these villages.

SIR STUART BAYLEY, the Chief Commissioner of Assam, is on a tour of inspection. As he steamed away his eyes caught a triumphal arch at Nabigunge, a Munsifi Chowki in the district of Sylhet, and although this station was not included in his programme he landed there for a short time and visited the Munsif's Court and school. This little demonstration in honor of the Chief Commissioner was got up by Babu Wopendra Chunder Ghose, the Munsif, at his own expense.

WE HAVE to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the under-mentioned publications and periodicals:—1. The Law of Evidence in British India By C. D. Field, M. A., L. L. D., of the Inner Temple, Barrister-at-law, and of Her Majesty's Bengal Civil Service, District and Sessions Judge of Burdwan. Third edition. 2. Report on the Calcutta Court of Small Causes for 1877-78. 3. Proceedings of the Asiatic Society of Bengal for August 1878, No. III. 4. Report on Public Instruction in the Hyderabad Assigned Districts, for 1877-78 by Naryan B. Dandekar, Director of Public Instruction, Hyderabad Assigned Districts. 5. A few remarks on the Congress of Berlin. By Mirza Peer Buksh, London. 6. The Tenth Annual Report of the

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Chorebagan Female School for 1877. 7. List of the Principal Colonial Newspapers, including that of the Continent of Europe and the United States, for July 1878. 8. The Mahabharut in Bengali prose published by Protapchunder Roy and distributed gratis, Nos. 24, 25 and 26.

WE TAKE from the morning papers the following telegrams of the week:

London 9th September.—Mr. Rivers Wilson has arrived in London. The British Government has not yet sanctioned his nomination to the Egyptian ministry of finance, as France offers objections on the ground that French influence in Egypt would thereby be weakened. The Commander of the forces in Ceylon will be recalled.

9th.—Germany has sent a despatch to the signatory powers of the treaty of Berlin, calling upon them to take one common step to bring the Porte to execute the treaty stipulations. Austria, France, and Russia have agreed in the matter, but England and Italy have not yet replied.

10th.—It is officially announced that the fever epidemic in Cyprus has suddenly increased, and that twenty-five per cent. of the British force stationed there are ill with it. The *Standard* urges the Government to take immediate action if the Ameer declines to receive the English mission about to be despatched, or to comply with the demands which the English envoy will bear to him.

11th.—Greece has solicited the mediation of the European Powers in favor of a rectification of the Turko-Grecian frontier. Nobiling, who attempted to assassinate the Emperor William, is dead.

12th.—England will probably decline to accede to Germany's proposal to the signatory powers of the treaty of Berlin, to take common steps to bring the Porte to execute the treaty stipulations.

15th.—General Lysons has been appointed Colonel of the 54th Foot. Latest advices from America state that the yellow fever epidemic in the Southern States is diminishing in consequence of colder weather having set in. An eruption of Mount Vesuvius has taken place. The volcano is now in full activity, and a lava stream is pouring down the mountain's side.

Constantinople 8th September.—An insurrectionary movement of the Mahomedan population in Albania has broken out, and the insurgents have massacred the Turkish authorities at Ipek. The Mahomedan population of Batoum emigrated to Trebizonde before the Russians entered the town. The Austrians have occupied Trebinje without meeting with opposition.

12th.—Safvet Pacha has verbally informed Sir A. Layard that the Porte adheres to the British scheme for reforms in the Asiatic Provinces of Turkey. The transfer of the Austrian head-quarters to Brod is intended.

Constantinople 14th September.—It is not intended to transfer the whole of the Austrian head-quarters to Brod but only a portion will be withdrawn there. The Austrian Commander Feldzeugmeister, General Phillipovich, will remain at Serajevo. Seditious manifestations have been made in Constantinople, and many arrests have been made in connection therewith, besides which the Porte has taken additional measures of precaution. The refusal of England, to accede to the proposal made by Germany to the signatory powers of the Berlin treaty, to take a common step to bring the Porte to execute the treaty stipulations is confirmed, is based upon a report received from Sir A. Layard, which affirms the good intentions of the Porte to execute the terms of the Berlin treaty. The Greek note, proposing a mediation of the powers in favor of a rectification of the Turko-Grecian Frontier, has been delivered.

Athens 11th September.—The Greek Minister of War has recalled all officers and soldiers absent on leave, as a measure of precaution.

Berlin 9th September.—The German Parliament opened to day. The speech from the throne urges the adoption of the anti-socialist bill.

INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE CULTIVATION OF SCIENCE.

(210, Bow-Bazar Street.)

LECTURE by Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, to-morrow Evening at 7½ P. M.

Subject: Mutual Action of Electric Currents and Magnets. Ampere's Electro-dynamic Theory.

LECTURE by Babu Tara Prasanna Roy on *Saturday* the 21*st Inst.*, next at 4 P. M.

Subject: Bromine.

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1878.

THE DEBATE ON THE INDIAN BUDGET.

THE debate in the House of Commons on the Indian Budget was not worthy of the name. But the speech of Mr. Stanhope, the Under-Secretary of State for India, was very important. It was meant chiefly as a reply to Lord Northbrook. The noble Lord had said that the condition of the Indian finances was such as not to require additional taxation for famine purposes, but Mr. Stanhope replied that his Lordship had charged unremunerative public works to capital. Is this a fact? Did not Lord Northbrook's Government annually provide from three to four millions of money for unremunerative public works? The question is what are and what are not unremunerative public works. If works which ought to be reproductive, but which for some reason or other cannot be immediately reproductive, are to be classed with unremunerative works, then there is an end to all argument. None knows better than Lord Northbrook himself the principle on which public works ought to be charged, and if the India Office did not agree with him, Lord Cranbrook ought to have answered him in the Upper House instead of leaving Mr. Stanhope to answer him in the Lower House behind his back, when his Lordship could have no opportunity to reply. But the principal point of Mr. Stanhope's speech was the defence of the license tax and the reduction of the Salt duty. With regard to the License tax His Lordship remarked: "It had been said that it was a tax upon the very poor; but that turned out not to be the case, because it was not to be imposed upon any person earning a net income of less than 100 rupees a year; and though the Government had the power of extending the limit of exemption, there were many men in receipt of that income who would escape the tax, and anybody who could prove that the amount of the tax was more than two per cent. of his net annual earnings might ask either for a reduction or for total exemption." Now, the exemption of earnings to the amount of Rs. 100 per annum does not remove the reproach against the License tax that it presses upon the poor. A man's family in India is generally taken to consist of five individuals, and an income of Rs. 8 per month does not give even two rupees or four shillings per head per month. Can a person with such small income make the two ends meet? And yet he is considered a proper subject of taxation. Then the Under-Secretary of State did not take note of the widespread net which an Indian assessor spreads. Surcharge being the rule, persons exempted under the law might be assessed as if they were not exempted, and their exemption would practically signify nothing. With regard to the reduction of the salt duty Mr. Stanhope said that the great object was to abolish the Customs Line. Formerly it was urged that the incidence of the salt tax was unequal and that the inequality ought to be remedied. Now, it is the abolition of the Customs Line, which has led to the equalization of the salt duties. Mr. Stanhope made a long defence of this measure of the Government of India, and in justice to him we transcribe it *in extenso*:

In order to prevent the ingress into our territories of salt taxed at low rates, a line had been maintained of many hundreds of miles in length, at one time 2 400, consisting principally of a hedge of thorny trees and bushes, supplemented by stone walls and ditches, which could not be passed by any one without examination. This line was kept up at an enormous expense, and guarded by a force of 18,000 men. In the year 1872 the Government of India had called for the opinion of local officers as to the effect of the existing system of taxation upon the people. In reply to that circular the officers of the Central Provinces had pointed out that the Customs line to the north and south of these provinces was one of the measures connected with taxation of which the people most complained, and from Bengal the Lieutenant-Governor (now the hon. member for Kirkcaldy) had written that throughout his tour it seemed to him that the Customs line had been felt by the people as a greater grievance than all other grievances put together. No one could travel through those districts without being liable to constant search by Custom-house officers. Everywhere it was stated that the annoyance to travellers was great, for they were always liable to be stopped and overhauled, and the possession or the suspicion of the possession of salt carried with it difficulty and vexation. Besides, though this would apply only to travellers in one direction, the necessity of collecting inland sugar duties caused almost equal annoyance to travellers in the other direction, and the temptation offered to smuggling was so great that the people were described as becoming demoralized by it. That line had therefore been condemned by successive Governments and by most of those who had studied the financial affairs of India. (Hear, hear.) The mode in which salt was supplied varied very greatly in different parts of India. Bengal and Assam derived almost their whole supply from Cheshire; Madras and Bombay and a part of the Central Provinces obtained salt made from the sea; and the Punjab had an abundant supply of rock salt. But 47 millions of people dwelling in the North-Western Provinces, Oude, and in the Central Provinces depended almost entirely for their salt upon the native States of Rajpootana and that district. The rate of duty itself and the mode of levying it presented almost as much variation. The steps, therefore, necessary for its abolition were—first, to extend railways into the salt-producing districts, and to enter into arrangements with the native States of those districts, so that all salt might be taxed at the place of production; secondly, to remove the inequalities in the rate of duty in different parts of the country. (Hear, hear.) A great advance in this direction had been made by the extension of railways into Rajpootana, and during the administration of Lord Mayo the lease of the Sambhar Salt Lake had enabled a great reduction to be made in the price of salt. In 1874 the first step towards its actual abolition had been taken, and the southern Customs line, extending over 800 miles of country, had been dispensed with. The effect of that had been to reduce that price of salt in the Central Province and in Orissa, with practically no financial loss at all. In the meantime the negotiations with the States of Rajpootana had been continued, and had reached such a point that in December last the Government was of opinion that some progress might also be made in the second of the necessary conditions—the equalization of the rates of duty. The first step in that direction had been taken by a decrease in the rate of duty in Northern India and a increase in Madras and Bombay. This increase, accompanied though it had been by relief from other taxation, and necessary though it was if equalization was to be attained, had been sharply criticized in the House. He did not desire to renew the controversy. The increase which had been made did not amount to more than a tax of 2d. a year upon each consumer, and while the incidence of the tax at the rate of 2 rupees 8 annas did not exceed ¾d. per lb., the actual cost of salt was gradually being lessened by the spread of the railway system and the diminished cost of transit. But very recently within the last few weeks—we had learnt that the negotiations with the native States had come to a satisfactory termination, and the Government of India had come to the conclusion that the result of those treaties enabled them at once to take steps for carrying out their long-cherished object of abolishing the Customs line. (Hear) Accordingly, from the 1st of this month the salt-duty in Northern India had been reduced to 2r. 8a. per maund, except in Bengal, where it would be fixed at 2r. 14a. The result was that, with the exception just mentioned, one uniform rate prevailed throughout India. The accomplishment of this object justified to the fullest extent the contention of the Indian Government, which was much criticized at the time, that the recent increase in Madras and Bombay was really imposed for financial reform and not from financial necessities. The effect upon the revenue caused by this reduction of the duty was expected to result in a loss of about the same amount as was gained by the increase in Southern India. The House would bear in mind, when he came to state the Budget estimates for the present year, that the loss of revenue just announced (amounting in the present year to £150,000 and in future years to something under £300,000) had not been included. The Government had at present received only the telegraphic announcement of the reduction, and he was therefore not yet in a position to make any detailed statement to the House as to the mode in which it was proposed to carry it out. He might however at once answer one criticism which had been made. It had been urged that the effect of our obtaining control over the sources of salt manufacture would be to cause hardship to large number of the people in the native States. The Government of India had every reason to believe that the contrary would be the case. Very ample compensation had been made, not only to the chiefs, but to the people, directly and indirectly. He would not weary the House by entering into any detail, but would merely express the belief of the Government of India that the general result would unquestionably be a great balance of advantage to them. He believed that when these arrangements were complete it might be necessary to wait until the stocks of salt which might still be in the hands of traders and which otherwise might escape taxation had been disposed of. These however were matters of detail and it might safely be said that no serious obstacle now existed and that very shortly the Government of Lord Lytton would have the satisfaction of abolishing what had been called the commercial and political scandal of the inland Customs line. Of course it would have been very agreeable to have been able to effect that object while fixing a lower uniform rate than 2r. 8a.; and the hon. member for Kirkcaldy had he thought been in favour of endeavouring to approximate to a rate of 2r. But in the present state of our finances this would have been impossible. In Madras and Bombay undoubtedly the effect of the increase required to be carefully watched; but to a very large part of the population of India much cheaper salt would be available; and he hoped that he was not too sanguine in anticipating from the abolition of the line, and from the other arrangements that would be made a great stimulus to the interal trade of the country. He was confident that the House would hear with great satisfaction of the accomplishment of this long-desired reform, and would appreciate the perseverance and energy of Lord Lyotton and Sir John Strachey, with whose names it would hereafter be honourably associated. (Hear, hear.) Few in fact would dispute the advantage of abolishing the Customs line. But the question had been raised in another place whether the moment was opportune for doing it and whether it was desireable to impose fresh taxation upon the people of India for the purpose. His answer to that criticism of Lord Northbrook was that as a matter of fact no new taxation had been required for this purpose. The effect of raising the salt-tax in one part of India while diminishing it in the other had been in the opinion of the Government of India to leave the salt revenue just where it was. In other words this reform had been effected by a new distribution of the charge, and not by a diminution of revenue. Treating, therefore, these re-adjustments of the salt duty as a whole, and putting them on one side as not affecting the revenue one way or the other, we arrived at the conclusion that the new taxation was not wanted for the purpose. It was imposed on different grounds, and for different objects. Intimately connected with the Customs line was the question of the inland sugar duties, for without that their maintenance would be impossible. Sugar was one of the most important products of our own people in Northern India, but the effect of the Customs line was to place artificial obstructions upon its export. "So far as competition exists," said Sir John Strachey, "the duty acts as a protective duty in favour of foreign and against our own sugar." Believing that that state of things was intolerable, and also that the duty could in no circumstances be maintained much longer, the Government of India determined to make provision in the ordinary Budget of the year for its immediate abolition. (Hear, hear.)

The increase of the salt tax in Southern India was intended as a substitute for the land cess in Northern India, and if this is true, it is superfluous to discuss the question of enhancement. As for the reduction of the salt duty, it is now urged that that measure has been undertaken for financial reform, and the loss involved by this decrease is balanced by the gain from the increase of duty. So practically the salt duty in Southern

India has been enhanced for financial reform and not to meet a financial necessity. It then comes to this, money was first taken under one pretext, and that course is now justified by another pretext. The Indian Customs line is a "commercial and political scandal," and ought therefore to be swept away. But are not there other acts of the Government, which are looked upon by different theorists as "scandals"? Is not the salt tax itself considered by a great party in England as a great scandal, because it is levied upon a necessary of life? Is not the opium revenue denounced as a great scandal, because it is derived by demoralizing a foreign people? But is the Government prepared to give up the salt tax or the opium revenue? The customs line is certainly a nuisance, but which would be the greater nuisance, the License tax covering the whole country, or the customs line affecting those who might seek to defraud the revenue by smuggling in salt? But interference of the kind caused by the customs line is had recourse to in preventing the smuggling of excisable articles under the Abkari Act and in collecting the octroi. It is because we consider the License tax a greater evil than the Inland customs line that we oppose the reduction of the salt duties in Northern India.

THE RENT QUESTION OF BEHAR.

THE backwardness and poverty of the ryots of Behar certainly call for the earnest attention of Government, and Sir Ashley Eden has not therefore directed his attention to this subject too soon. His Honor has resolved to appoint a Committee to draw up a special Rent Bill for Behar. The Committee consists of the following gentlemen :

1. The Commissioner of the Division, *President.*
2. C. F. Worsley, Esq., Collector of Mozufferpore.
3. G. J. S. Hodgkinson, Esq., Collector of Sarun.
4. G. Toynbee, Esq., Collector of Patna.
5. M. Finucane, Esq., C S., *Secretary.*
6. D. Reid, Esq., Indigo Planter, Sarun.
7. B. Hudson, Esq., ditto, Champarun.
8. G. Anderson, Esq., *ditto,* Durbhunga.
9. J. Tripe, Esq., ditto, Mozufferpore.
10. T. M. Gibbon, Esq., ditto, Chumparun.
11. M. Buskin, Esq., Manager of the Hutwa Rajah's Estate.
12. Baboo Bemola Churn Bhuttacharjea, Deputy Collector.
13. „ Bhoop Sen Sing, Government Pleader, Gya.
14. „ Joyprakash Lal, Manager, Doomraon Raj.
15. „ Hurbuns Sahai, Pleader, Arrah.

The Committee is fairly enough constituted, though the native element is somewhat weak. The necessity for special legislation is thus indicated by His Honor the Lieutenant Governor: "The loose system of zemindari accounts, the entire absence of leases and counterparts, the universal prevalence of illegal distraint, the oppression incident to the realization of rents in kind, the practice of amalgamating holdings so as to destroy evidence of continuous occupation, are evils which necessarily prevent any possible development of agricultural prosperity among the tenant class, and place them practically at the mercy of their landlords, or of the *thikadars,* to whom ordinarily their landlords from time to time transfer their rights. When to all this is added the tediousness and expense of carrying a rent suit through the civil court, the corruption of the process servers, and the uncertainties of execution of decrees, the provision of some special legislation to deal with the question of relations of landlord and tenants in Behar appears to be as desirable for the sake of the landlord as for that of the ryot." His Honor thus wrote to the late Commissioner of Patna on the subject :

One great difficulty is to bring the law within easy reach of complainants who can afford but little time and less money to sue for their rights. It has been suggested that this might be met by investing rural Sub-Registrars with the powers of Moonsifs to try rent suits, and also making use of them as Sub-Deputy Collectors and giving them 3rd class criminal powers. We should still have to increase their number and to give them a fair salary all round. It is questionable whether this would not be as expensive as increasing the number of Moonsifs. The scheme moreover, is essentially weak, owing to the dislike which the High Court would naturally have to supervising the civil work of officers who are in such a very partial way subordinate to them. Still the Lieutenant-Governor thinks the scheme worth considering, and one which should not altogether be lost sight of. The Bill at present under his consideration for Bengal proposes to confer a summary jurisdiction on Moonsifs, and not to place the disposal of these suits in the hands of the Deputy Collectors. As the orders of the Government of India to abstain from trenching in any way on the powers and jurisdiction which the law has conferred on civil courts are clear and decided, this point is not open to discussion ; and whatever alteration is made in the law, the jurisdiction must remain with civil courts, under the superintendence of the High Court. This, of course, does not preclude amendments in the procedure now in force in those courts, and it is in this direction, rather than in altering the substantive law, that the Lieutenant-Governor sees most probability of useful amendment. By giving due notice, after which no accounts shall be received in evidence unless kept in proper form and authenticated by the registered putwari ; by insisting on forms of printed receipts and the use of counterfoils ; by improving the system of serving process ; by refusing all decrees for back rent till a pottah is offered, and giving special facilities for recovery where registered kabooluats are produced in support of the claim—the Lieutenant-Governor thinks that some first steps may be taken towards placing the relations of landlord and tenant on a proper footing. Another point which requires earnest attention is to get rid of the system of illegal restraint, or of placing a peon to prevent the cutting of a crop till rent is paid, which now obtains in Behar ; and if this, which is more in the hands of the Magistrates than of the rent courts, is to be done, it would be well at the same time to simplify greatly the legal process of distraint ; for distraint under proper safeguards is a right in the exercise of which Mr. Eden would fully support the rent receiver. In asking you to consider these points, I am to say that the less radical the interference with the existing law, the more chance is there of its being accepted ; and it is better to have a short Bill supplementary to the law in force than to substitute an entirely new Bill for it.

In the letter before us His Honor thus lays down the basis for legislation :

There is a general concurrence of opinion that the law should by a simple and effective procedure enable a ryot—

- to maintain his rights of occupancy when acquired ;
- to hold his land subject to fixed conditions of tenure ;
- to be certified exactly of the amount which he will have to pay for it annually ;
- to resist illegal distraint, illegal cesses, and illegal enhancement ;
- to have at hand a trustworthy record of demands and payments.

All the suggestions contained in the papers aim at improving the existing machinery for attaining these ends, and the points at which it is proposed to strengthen and improve this machinery may be indicated under the following heads.

In order to secure more effectual record of rights, it is proposed—

I.—To improve the system of zemindari accounts in connection with the obligations imposed on putwarees.

II.—To encourage or render compulsory interchange of pottahs and kaboolyuts.

III.—To insist on the use of counterfoil receipts.

IV.—To cheapen registration.

V.—To discourage amalgamation of old and new holdings.

VI.—To allow occupancy rights to be transferable by sale, and to create certain presumptions of law in favour of the ryot.

And for the other purposes in view, it is proposed

VII.—To simplify and amend the law of distraint, and to make illegal distraint, or restraint of crops, specially punishable.

VIII.—To limit the right to enhance, and make illegal enhancement punishable.

IX.—To make the demand of illegal cesses punishable.

X.—To recognize and provide by law for the system of payment in kind which obtains largely in the province.

And to these may be added—

XI.—The provision of a summary procedure as in the Bengal Bill for the recovery of undisputed arrears of rent.

XII.—The empowering of Collectors to effect a settlement in certain disputed cases.

We do not like piece-meal legislation. It would have been better if the whole rent-law had been revised, instead of its being tinkered for particular districts. The range of subjects given above is too wide, and we do not think that an easy solution can be had for some of the questions raised. It is easily said that the exchange of pottahs and kabulyats should be made compulsory. We are of opinion that a better security for the interests of both landlord and tenant there can not be than the exchange of written agreements between them, but the ryot will not unfrequently take a written pottah or execute a written kabulyat, and the unscrupulous zemindar also throws difficulty in the way. How is this provision to be enforced? Heavy pains and penalties must be imposed, and who knows that this may not give rise to an agrarian revolt? Perhaps the best way of accomplishing the object aimed at would be to appoint special Deputy Collectors to effect a settlement of rent and to enforce the execution of pottahs and kabulyats. It will be a prolonged, tedious and expensive work, but without some such agency we fear it cannot be effectually enforced. Then again there is no such thing as occupancy right in Behar. The ryots do not know it and have never claimed it. Would it not be a confiscation of the proprietory right if it were forcibly wrung from the landlord? In our humble opinion the first thing necessary for the amelioration of the condition of the Behar ryot is the determination of the rate of rent. At present it ranges from one-half to two-thirds. It is impossible that the ryot can live upon such a low margin. If the rate of rent be fixed on a fair and equitable basis, the condition-of-ryot question in Behar may be left to adjust itself, and for this purpose the appointment of special Deputy Collectors as suggested above is the more necessary. Once the rent is fixed, it ought to have a currency for ten years. Then the patwaris ought to be wholly swept away. They are utterly untrustworthy and do more harm than good. As for illegal distraint and illegal cesses, no special law is necessary to put down such illegalities. The very existence of such illegalities reflects seriously upon the executive. But if illegal distress is to be repressed, legal facilities ought to be afforded for the speedy recovery of rent.

INDIA IN THE PARIS EXHIBITION.

INDIA occupies a post of honor in the Paris Exhibition. The Government of India had consented to exhibit only raw products and manufactures, but H. R. H. the Prince of Wales, who evinced a most active interest in the Exhibition, offered his own collection of the higher art manufactures of India. His Royal Highness also consented to act as the President of the Indian Commission. Lord Northbrook, Mrs. Rivett Carnac, and several Native Princes have also lent their own collections. Mrs. Carnac we are told has exhibited 6,000 objects of peasant jewelry of India. The British Indian Section contains over twelve thousand specimens arranged into the following collections :—1. The Indian presents belonging to his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, and other private collections lent to the Indian Committee. 2. Articles of Indian manufacture exhibited by the principal importing firms in London and Paris, exhibited in the Indian Pavilion. 3. Supplementary collection of native art manufacture exhibited by the Indian Committee (objects priced for sale at the close of the exhibition). 4. Raw products, and food substances, woods and forest specimens, dyes, &c. Dr. Birdwood of the Indian Museum in England has published a hand-book to the British Indian Section. It is a most interesting publication, for a copy of which we thank the author. Dr. Birdwood has prefaced his account of India in the Exhibition with a running history of Indian products and trade. He says, "the earliest, most valuable, and fullest notices of the Indian trade are in the Bible ; and the collection of the vegetable, animal, and mineral produetions of India sent by the British Government to the present exhibition illustrates in a very interesting manner the proofs the Bible affords of the immense antiquity of the trade." Passing over the historical chapters we come to the account of the exhibition. The present collection of Indian handicrafts consists principally of

the presents made to the Prince of Wales during his recent visit to India. It was primarily not a systematic collection of Indian handicraft, but of objects of Indian art suitable for presents. Many things, therefore, indeed whole classes of some of the most interesting and instructive of the traditional industries of India, which one was accustomed to see at previous Exhibitions, were absent from the present Exhibition. But, on the other hand, many objects were now shewn of the highest artistic value, but which are so costly and have acquired so long a time for their production, that there would never have been an opportunity of seeing them out of India, except among the rich and rare offerings of its greatest Chiefs and Princes to the heir to the British Throne and Empire. Dr. Birdwood makes the following remarks on some of the articles exhibited :

"The first objects among the Prince's presents which strike the visitor on entering the Indian Court are the cases of gold and silver plate. A silver-gilt service for *pan* and *atar* (betel leaf and perfumes), from Mysore, is a good example of pure Hindu work, and the elaborately chased goblets (*sarai*) and rose-water sprinklers, some in ruddy gold, and others parcel-gilt, are almost perfect examples of the exquisite goldsmith's work of Cashmere and Lucknow ; the work of Cashmere being distinguished by the introduction of the shawl pattern cone in the chasing.

By the side of these elegant and comely vessels of silver and gold are to be found some of the most glaring illustrations of the debasement of Hindu and Indian art under European influences in the whole collection. The obtrusive gold vase from Mysore was probably modelled after a spurious [George IV.] Adam's vase. There are two gold chargers and a tea service, which are mere copies of the worst Birmingham patterns, and a pair of mounted bison's horns, a monstrous product of the attempt to combine Indian with European designs in decorative art.

The centre-piece of Cutch (Dutch) work must, however, be excepted. It represents a conventionalised Pine-apple, the body of which conceals a liqueur bottle, the crown being shaped to hold flowers, and four griffins support the whole. It is a strange object, of German origin probably, though Dutch descent, but thoroughly naturalised in India, and the genuine design of an Hindu artist, although good neither in form nor decoration. The fine Cutch work exhibited by Lord Northbrook, is by Umersi Manji, a silversmith of Buj. Lord Northbrook also exhibits a case of Burmese *repousse* silver of the highest excellence in design and workmanship. From Hyderabad, in the Deccan, there is a parcel-gilt vase, an example of the pierced work (the *opus interrasile* of the Romans), of the Nizam's dominions.

There are three cases entirely filled with the chased parcel-gilt work of Cashmere. Its airy shapes and exquisite tracery graven through the gilding to the dead white silver below, softening the lustre of the gold to a pearly radiance give a most charming effect to this refined and graceful work. It is an art imported by the Mogols, but influenced by the natural superiority of the people of the valley of Cashmere to all other Orientals in the elaboration of decorative details of good design, whether in metal work, hammered and cut, enamelling weaving. The candelabrum from Srinagar, both in form and decoration, is evidently derived through Persia from a Turkish original. The arts of Cashmere have also been largely influenced by the characteristic architecture of the valley, as the local arts of Madras have been developed from its architecture.

Enamelling is the master art craft of the world, and the enamels of Jeypore rank before all others, and are of matchless perfection.

The Jeypore enamelling is *Champleve*. A large plate in the centre of the case is the largest specimen of it ever made. It took four years in the making, and is in itself a monument of the Indian enameller's art. Near it is a beautiful covered cup and saucer, similar to one belonging to Lady Mayo. The bowl of the spoon belonging to Lord Mayo's cup is cut out of solid emerald, and as in all Hindu sacrificial spoons, from which it was designed, is in the same plane with the handle. It is perfect in design and finish, and is surely the choicest jewelled spoon in existence.

Another exquisite example of Jeypore enamelling is the little perfume box, or *atardan*, something like a patch box, with a cone-shaped cover, belonging to Mr. W. Anderson in the South Kensington Museum, having a representation of Krishna, surrounded by cows and calves and sheperdesses in a grove, with birds singing among the branches all round the box ; and of Krishna dancing with the fair shepherdesses on a green ground of hills and valleys, dales and fields, all round the cover. It was surmounted with a yellow diamond, in perfect harmony with the colours of the green and white, blue, orange, and scarlet enamels, but the owner has replaced it by a perfectly inharmonious stone of the purest and most brilliant water. Of all the Prince's enamels the daintiest device is a native writing case, or *kulumdan*, shaped like an Indian gondola. The stern is figured like a peacock, the tail of which sweeps under half the length of the boat, irradiating it with blue and green enamels, brighter even than the natural iridescence of a peacock's tail. The canopy which covers the ink bottle is colored with green and blue, and ruby and coral red enamels. It is the mingled brilliances of its greens, and blues, and reds which, laid on pure gold, make the superlative excellence and beauty of Jeypore enamelling. Even Paris cannot paint gold with the ruby red and coral red the emerald green, and turquoise and sapphire blues of the enamels of Jeypore, Lahore, Benares, and Lucknow.

The interest of the Prince's presents culminates in the arms. For variety, extent and gorgeousness, and ethnological and artistic value, such a collection of Indian arms has never been brought together before, not even in India itself, and it fairly defies description. No man was so poor that he could not present the Prince with a bow and arrow, or spear, or sword, or battle-axe, and, in fact, everyone who was brought before the Prince gave him an arm of some sort. The collection thus represents the armourer's art in every province of India, from the rude spears of the Nicobar islanders, to the costly damascened, sculptured, and jewelled sword and shields, and daggers and matchlocks of Cashmere Lahore, Sealkote, Gujerat, Cutch, Hyderabad' Singapore and Ceylon.

The most striking object among the Prince's arms is a suit of armour made entirely of the horny scales of the Indian Armadillo, or Pangolin (*Manis pentadactyla*) entrusted with gold, and turquoises, and garnets. There is another splendid suit of Cashmere chain armour, fine almost as lace work. The style is essentially Persian and Circassian, and is indentical with that of the armour worn in Europe in the 13th century. The damascened casque is surmounted with a plume of pearls. There are many other suits of armour with damascened breast plates, gauntlets, and greaves, which carry one back to the Crusades, and legendary history of modern Persia. Some of the sword blades are marvellously watered, several are sculptured in half relief with hunting scenes, and others are strangely shaped, teethed like a saw and flaming (*flamboyant*) ; although for mingled cruelty and grotesqueness of appearance none match the battle-axes of the Sowrahs and Khonds.

After the archaic jewelry of Ahmedabad, the best Hindu jewelry, of the purest Hindu style is the beaten gold of Sawuntwari, Mysore, Vizianagram, and Visagapatam, which well illustrates the admirable way in which the native workers in gold and silver elaborate an extensive surface of ornament out of apparently a wholly inadequate quantity of metal, beating it almost to the thinness of tissue paper, without at all weakening its effect of solidity. By their consummate skill and thorough knowledge and appreciation of the conventional decoration of surface, they contrive to give to the least possible weight of metal, and to gems, commercially absolutely valueless the highest possible artistic value, never even in their excessive elaboration of detail, violating the fundamental principles of ornamental design, nor failing to please even though it be by an effect of barbaric richness and superfluity. This character of Indian jewelry is a remarkable contrast with modern European jewelry, in which the object of jeweller, seems to be to bestow the least amount of work on the greatest amount of metal. Weight is in fact the predominant character of European "high class" jewelry, and gold and silver smith's work. Even when reproducing the best Adam's designs, they spoil their work by making it too thick and heavy and so demoralising is the rage for weight that English purchasers attracted by the eye to Indian jewelry directly they find how light it is in the hand refuse it as rubbish ; the cost of Indian jewelry being from one-twentieth to one-fourth in excess of its net weight. The jury on jewelry at the Great Exhibition of 1851 actually wrote of Indian jewelry : "It is sufficient to cast a glance on the exhibitions of India, Turkey, Egypt, Tunis, to be convinced that these nations have remained stationary from a very early period of manufacture. Some of them indeed develope ideas full of grace and originality, but their productions are always immature and imperfect, and the skill of the workman is called in to make amends for the inadequateness of the manufacturing process." Surely it is better to remain stationary than to fall as we have in England, from the thin beaten silver of Queen Anne's reign, and the designs of Adams to the present unseemly dead-weight silver and gold manufactures of Birmingham and London, for which customers have to pay four times and more than the value of their weight. The deceitfulness of its false appearance of richness and solidity and flaunting gorgeousness is in fact one of the greatest charms of Indian jewelry especially in an admiring but poor purchaser's eyes.

We have not space for more extracts, but Dr. Bridwood's hand-book is well worth perusal. He has brought a highly educated taste to bear upon the notices he has given of the Indian collection in the Paris Exhibition.

MR. JUSTICE MARKBY.

AFTER a career of about twelve years Mr. Justice Markby leaves this city this evening for his native land. A man of liberal culture, generous feelings, and high character, Mr. Markby from the first commanded high respect of those who came to know him. Although not a brilliant Judge, he was very painstaking and thoroughly conscientious. He was a good constitutional lawyer, and a thorough coustitutionalist. The best impress of his mind is left in his judgment in the now celebrated Jaintiah Hills case. Although his judgment was ultimately reversed by the Privy Council, the majority of his colleagues had concurred with him, and the general public, who feel interested in the supremacy of the law, subscribe to the view he took. That judgment may form the battle-ground for a constitutional warfare in Parliament. Mr Markby, however, sometimes shewed a weakness in upholding executive authority. This was lamentably the case in the notorious Fenwa trials. Never did the dignity of the High Court suffer more than by its judgment in this instance. But probably Mr. Markby had placed too much reliance upon the local knowledge of his civilian colleagues. The serenity of mind, which he always brought to bear on his judicial work, however commanded the respect of all. He made no distinction between the English and the Indian advocate. He listened with patience to all, and as a Criminal Judge endeavoured to combine justice with mercy. Almost his very last judgment shews what a keen sense of justice he possessed. There were two persons tried for perjury by two different Courts. In the one case the prisoner was acquitted by the jury, though the Judge, Mr. Justice White, had strongly charged for conviction. In the other case the prisoner was convicted by the jury. The evidence in both the cases was the same, but in the one case it satisfied the jury and in the other it did not satisfy the jury. Mr. Justice Markby says, "without pretending to say where the truth lies between these parties—a matter which may have to be investigated by the Civil Court—I am bound to say that I was not altogether satisfied with the verdict in the case tried before me. Under these peculiar circumstances, I do not think I ought to inflict upon the prisoner now before me any substantial punishment. I order him, therefore, to be imprisoned for one day, which in fact amounts to an order for his release at the rising of the Court." This indicates a sense of justice, which cannot but command respect. The pleaders of the High Court presented him on Saturday last a valedictory address, from which we quote the following :

The vast interspaces in the substantive law of the country render the duties of an Indian Judge peculiarly difficult ; but you brought to the discharge of those duties great learning, untiring industry and a mind familiar with the best models of European Jurisprudence.

My Lord, as a Judge of the High Court, you have by your learning and talents, by an earnest desire to do justice, and by your uniform kindness and courtesy earned the respect and esteem of the Profession : and the magnitude of the loss in your early retirement from the Bench will be equally felt by the Profession and the public.

We endorse every word of the above. But Mr. Justice Markby was not content with the performance of his judicial duties. He took great interest in the reformation of juvenile criminals, and volunteered his services as a member of the Reformatory School Committee. A friend of the educated natives, he worked quietly for their benefit. He was not a man of fuss and noise. But he was a modest and hard worker. He opened a law class in his own house where he used to deliver law lectures to students. He has published these lectures separately, which contain valuable comments on some of the Indian laws. The opinions he has expressed in these lectures have led to some practical results. For instance the wards' estates Bill now before the Bengal Council has been based on the lines indicated by him. Some years ago Mr. Markby contributed a remarkable article to the *Westminister Review* on the administration of justice. In this article he exposed the weak points in our judicial system. He shewed that the want of legal training in the civilian judges often led to failure of justice. He expressed a very high opinion of the Native Judges, particularly of the modern school. By facts and figures he shewed that the new Native Judges were much superior to the European Judges. He advocated their appointment in the higher grades of the judicial service. Mr. Markby was a great friend of liberal education. When the great controversy about high education was raging in the time of Sir George Campbell he helped the native community with his advice and influence. As Vice-Chancellor of the University he worked quietly but vigorously and beneficially. Well do the graduates of the University in their address to Mr. Markby say :

It is for your exertion in the cause of high education that our thanks are especially due to you. The zeal and industry with which you considerd every important educational question, the great improvements you have helped to bring about in the entire educational system, and particularly in the system of legal education in this country, entitle you to our warmest gratitude. It is not often that a high functionary of State, burdened with numerous onerous duties, cares to bestow much attention on matters educational.

As a member of the Senate, and latterly as Vice-Chancellor, you have rendered valuable services to the University. But it is not only your acceptance of these positions of responsibility that constitute your chief title to our gratitude; the warm personal interest you took in all matters affecting education, your genuine sympathy with the educated people of this country, and your unceasing exertions in their behalf,—these shall make your name fondly cherished and gratefully remembered.

Not only, however, will the High Court and the University of Calcutta suffer by your absence; but native Indian Socity will lose from its midst a valued friend. There was none more anxious to study the

character of the people, their modes of life and thought, none more ready to appreciate and justify all that is good in them than yourself.

Mr. Markby's equable temper was shewn to the greatest advantage in the late controversy about Dr. Sircar's election to the Medical Faculty. He evinced a judicial calmness and impartiality in conducting this controversy. With the constitutional instincts of an Englishman he could not sympathize with the despotism of the Government of India, and although as a Judge he abstained from dabbling in politics his opinions on important political questions of the day were well known in high quarters. He was opposed to over-legislation, particularly in that form in which it sought to repress the liberty of the subject and to exalt the authority of the executive at the expense of the judiciary. He deeply regretted the Vernacular Press Act. He looks forward with anxiety to the present financial policy of the Government of India. He is convinced that the people of India are too poor to bear heavy taxation, and if he had the liberty, he would not have hesitated to lift his voice against it. But his enlightened views regarding Indian administration may bear fruit in England.

Mr. Markby carries with him the best wishes of the educated classes of this country, and we hope that though his official connection with this country ceases his interest in its myriad millions will not cease. *Adieu* !

PRESENT PRICES AND THE LICENSE TAX.

FROM one end of Bengal to the other there is a cry against high prices. There is great distress among the poorer classes, in many districts they are living upon one meal a day. Both ryots and artizans find it hard to make the two ends meet. It is true that high prices ought to benefit the producer, but he parted with his stores at the early outset of high price, and he is now left without any stock for his own maintenance. Perhaps never were old stores so much denuded as in this year. The famine in Southern India has extracted all that the ryots had throughout the country. The result is that the ryot is now obliged to purchase at a higher price what he had previously sold at the then high price. It is the middlemen and the capitalists who have reaped the benefit of high price. Some idea in the rise in the price of food-grains will be formed from the statement of export for four months from April to July for *three years from 1876 to 1878* :

Four Months, 1st April to 31st July.	1876.	1877.	1878.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Grain and Pulse—			
Gram ... cwt.	3,61,218	6,13,419	6,08,482
Rice in the husk (paddy) cwt.	1,84,075	1,09,683	2,10,713
Rice not in the husk—			
To United Kingdom .. cwt.	86,36,228	95,70,008	1,39,04,834
,, Germany ... cwt.	...	46,363	2,98,895
,, Malta .. cwt.	...	...	...
,, Mauritius ... cwt.	20,27,900	22,10,235	22,76,164
,, Reunion .. cwt.	1,11,538	55,964	5,88,535
,, West Indies ... cwt.	1,02,5 3	...	1,40,419
,, Arabia .. cwt.	1,35,.04	2,51,501	5,49,835
,, Ceylon .. cwt.	28,79,080	23,60,937	60,48,897
,, Persia .. cwt.	1,66,536	2,69,827	2,09,771
,, Straits Settlements... cwt.	7,92,385	5,39,245	23,11,938
,, Other Countries ... cwt.	4,81,399	7,25,154	16,47,242
Total cwt. ... cwt.	1,53,32,665	1,60,29,154	2,7 9,76,530

Four months 1st April to 31st July.	1876.	1877.	1878.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Grain and Pulse—			
Gram ... cwt.	139,761	182,310	133,336
Rice in the husk (paddy) cwt.	91,626	41,639	65,504
Rice not in the husk—			
To United Kingdom .. cwt.	4,017,618	3,385,980	3,639,389
,, Germany ... cwt.	...	18,750	80,746
,, Malta .. cwt.	...	...	...
,, Mauritius ... cwt.	636,650	550,697	449,164
,, Reunion .. cwt.	38,636	13,149	106,567
,, West Indies ... cwt.	29,690	...	25,449
,, Arabia .. cwt.	32,999	49,398	101,932
,, Ceylon .. cwt.	788,216	547,735	1,210,661
,, Persia .. cwt.	39,782	57,575	36,464
,, Straits Settlements... cwt.	294,806	133,330	540,111
,, Other Countries ... cwt.	141,526	170,603	318,392
Total cwt. ... cwt.	6,019,823	4,927,207	6,508,565

It will be seen from the above that although the quantities exported this year do not exceed much the same of 1876, the price has nearly doubled. We give below a statement shewing the details of prices in different districts for four years, that is to say for 1866, 1874, 1877, 1878 :

Quantity of Common rice per rupee

	1866.		1874.		1877.		1878.	
	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.
Western Districts.								
Burdwan	9	12	13	12	12	8	12	0
Bankoora	7	8	12	8	15	0	12	8
Beerbhoom	9	0	12	0	13	0	9	8
Midnapore	8	8	15 to 16	0 0	14	0	10	8
Hooghly	9	8	12 and 12	9 8	9	0	8	0
Howrah ..	9	8	11	12	10	0	8	8
Central Districts								
Calcutta	0	0	11	6	8	8	5	11
24 Pergunnahs	10	0	12	4	7	4	6	8
Nuddea	9	12	10	5	10	10	9	2
Jessore	9	0	11	8	9	0	8	0
Moorshedabad ...	9	0	11	0	10 to 11	0 0	9	4
Dinagepore	15	0	9	0	15	14	10	13
Rajshahye	9	4	10 to 13	8 8	9	0	8 to 9	4 12
Maldah	11	0	12	0	...		...	
Rungpore	16	0	9	6	12	14	9	0
Bogra	14	0	12	0	13	8	9	0
Pubna	9	8	0	0	10	0	6	12
Darjeeling	8	0	0	0	7	0	4	0
Julpigoree	0	0	10	0	11	8	8	0
Cooch Behar	9	8	0	0	0	0	0	0
Eastern Districts.								
Dacca	10	8	12	0	12	4	10	0
Furreedpore... ...	9	8	12	0	7	0	7	0
Backergunge ..	11	0	13	0	11	0	8	12
Mymensingh... ...	11	0	11	4	12	0	8	0
Sylhet	8	0	14	0	0	0	0	0
Cachar	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
Chittagong	15	0	13	0	7	0	6	0
Noakholly	11	0	13	0	9	0	9	0
Tipperah	12	8	13	0	10	0	7	8
Chittagong Hill Tracts	16	0	12	7	8	0	9	0
Hill Tipperah ...	19	0	13	8	16	0	9	0
BEHAR.								
Patna	9	8	13	0	12	8	8	0
Gya	9	12	10	0	11	0	8	0
Shahabad	9	4	10	12	12	8	8 to 10	12 0
Tirhoot	9	0	11	0	0	0	0	0
Sarun	11	0	12	8	10	0	6	0
Durbhanga	12	8	9	12	0	0	0	0
Muzafferpore ...	10	0	7	0	0	0	0	0
Chumparun	9	0	11	0	9	0	10	0
Monghyr	10	0	12	7	8	4	8	4
Bhaugulpore... ...	10	0	11	6	12	0	9	7
Purneah	9	0	10	0	15 to 16	0 0	11	0
Southal Pergunnahs.	10	0	11	0	13	0	8	8
ORISSA.								
Cuttack	4	4	24	15	10	8	9	3
Pooree	5	0	26	4	7	14	7	14
Balasore	6	0	21	0	13	0	10	0
CHOTA NAGPORE.								
South-Western Frontier Agency.								
Hazareebagh ...	9	0	13	0	12	0	8	8
Lohardugga	11	8	16	0	16	0	8	0
Singbhoom	8	0	0	0	20	0	10	0
Manbhoom	8	0	14	0	16	0	11	0
Gowalparah	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kamroop	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Durrang	19	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
Seebsauger	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Luchimpore	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Khasi and Janteah Hills	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

The years 1866 and 1874 were famine years, the last year was the year of the most active foreign and interportal export.

With such high prices raging throughout the country the poorer classes, as might be expected, are in the greatest distress. It will be observed that the prices are now higher than they were in 1874. We do not recommend any charitable relief, but may we venture to suggest a suspension of the License tax for one year ? The tax will begin to be collected from next November, and then the poorer classes will be hardly in a condition to pay. Even if the crops be fair, they have been already heavily involved in eking out their existence, and some time ought to be given to them to enable them to liquidate their debts. This is, therefore, not the time to levy a heavy tax. In 1874 the Government had suspended the Road Cess in many districts ; we do not recommend that measure this year, but we are of opinion that the Government will do well to suspend the levy of the License tax this year. If it cannot be generally suspended, can it not be suspended so far as the very poor are concerned, we mean persons falling under classes IV. V. and VI. ? When the bulk of the people can scarcely make the two ends meet, it is very hard that they should be called upon to pay a new tax.

TRAVANCORE.

MR. SASHIA SASTRI'S last administration report of Travancore is before us. It is as usual very interesting. It shews much intelligence and activity. Under the head of legislation Travancore, we observe, has made a start, which British India has not yet been able to take. The Maharaja of Travancore has abolished Bigamy within his territory. Over-legislation, we are glad to find, is not the distinguishing characteristic of Travancore. During the whole year under review only three laws were passed. Happy people of Travancore ! they know not what legislative diarrhœa is ! The energy of the Maharaja's Government is concentrated upon internal administration. The judicial system of Travancore is modelled on that of British India, and it seems to be working fairly. There are the Moonsifs' Courts, Zillah Courts, and Sudder Courts. The total number of suits instituted in the Munsifs' Courts was 32,164 or 4,321 over the same of the previous year. Including the suits pending at the end of the preceding year the grand total was 36,091, of which 31,322 were disposed of during the year under report. The maximum number disposed of by a single Munsiff was 2,518 (out of a file of 2,594) of which 857 were on merits, the highest figure representing disposal on merits by a single Munsiff. The minimum number was 633. Of the total number of cases disposed of by the Munsiffs, 8,191 cases or about 26 per cent. were appealable. Of these, however, only 1,869 decisions or about 23 per cent. were appealed against. Including 355 cases, pending at the beginning of the year and 54 cases re-admitted and transferred, the appeal cases were 2,278. Cases contested, were 1,445 ; 781 or 54 per cent. resulted in confirmation, 184 or 13 per cent, were modified, 480 or 33 per cent reversed. The original suits instituted in the zillah courts were 4363, of which 2600 were disposed of during the year. The total value of suits instituted in the Munsifs' Courts was Rs. 12,93,066 against 9,88,696 of the preceding year ; eight per cent. of the suits related to real property against 7 per cent. of the previous year. The value of suits instituted in the zillah courts was Rs. 18,64,990. There is a Sudder Court in Travancore, which is the highest court in appeal. The following is a statement of work done by the Sudder Court :

Nature of Suits.	1051			1052			
	No. inclusive of arrears.	Disposed of.	Pending.	Filed.	Total.	Disposed of.	Pending.
Appeals	574	448	126	510	636	460	176
Special Appeals.....	197	170	27	181	208	139	69
Reviews	3	2	1	,,	1	,,	,,
Total	774	620	154	691	845	599	241

The judicial receipts amounted to Rs. 1,86,107, and judicial charges to Rs. 1,68,573, leaving a balance of Rs. 19,499. It will be thus seen that the administration of justice in Travancore is self-supporting. The Criminal Courts worked satisfactorily. The number of criminal cases was 20,520 cases disposed of by the Magistracy were 17,127 against 16,581 of the year preceding ; cases committed to the Sessions Court were 733 against 692 in the previous year ; 2,636 cases were discharged or set aside on account of the non-apprehension of the accused or for want of evidence. The ratio of cases committed to the Criminal Courts to those disposed of by the Magistracy was 1 to 27. The average duration of a case disposed of by the Magistracy was 15 days against 14 of the year previous, and that of a committable case was 20 against 24 days in 1051, Travancore era. The number of Government servants charged with various offences during the year was 176, of whom 149 were drawing salaries below 10 Rupees, 25 between 10 and 25, 1 between 25 and 50, and one above 50 Rupees. The Police and Jails seem to be well looked after. The financial administration of Travancore is instructive. While all the establishments are wholly equipped, the expenditure balanced is by income, and there is a surplus from the savings of previous years. We give below a statement of receipts and disbursements of the Travancore state for the past year :

Receipts.		Rs.	Rs.
Balance as per last year's account...		.....	43,34,507
Land Revenue	...	16,32,012	
Miscellaneous Revenue	...	5,86,826	
Judicial Fees, &c.	..	1,89,431	
Customs	...	4,01,234	
Arrack and Opium	...	1.69.428	
Tobacco	...	8,66,143	
Salt	...	11,81,823	
Cardamom and other goods	...	94.729	
Timber	..	1,91,843	
Interest on Government Securities..		1,35,051	
Arrears of Revenue collected this year		74,679	55 26,199
			98,60,706

Disbursements.		Rs.	Rs.
The Devasom or Religious Institutions,		5.91,939	
Ootooperah or Charitable Do.	...	3,63 163	
The Palace	...	5,10,330	
Huzzoor Cutcherry and other Civil Establishment	...	5,95 128	
Judicial Establishment	...	1,76,159	
Police Establishment	...	1.57,933	
Nair Troops	..	1.64.249	
Elephant and Horse Establishments	...	70.534	
Education, Science and Art	...	1,77.440	
Medical	...	89.724	
Pensions	...	1.41,523	
Public Works	..	11,17,635	
Cost and charges of goods sold, &c. &c...		3.51,150	
Contingent charges	...	2,45,778	
Subsidy to the British Indian Government	...	7,85,206	
Census	...	2,296	
			55.40,285
Balance to be carried over to next year's account	...	...	43,20,421
			98,60,706
In cash	..	8,11,928	
Promissory Notes	...	29.49,346	
Goods	...	3,20,969	
		40.73,283	
Difference or Inefficient Balance	...	2,47,138	
		43,20,421	

A gold currency has been introduced into Travancore as an experiment. The Minister remarks: "It is noteworthy that in British India a gold currency has not been introduced as yet owing probably to the disadvantages attending a double standard. In other civilized countries where a gold and silver currency have been adopted, regulations have been enacted with the view to return coins of both metals in circulation. The desired result of the double standard adopted in Travancore have to be gathered from experience." English education is cherished in Travancore. There is a College, a High School and a prepatory school in the capital city of the state. The College is affiliated to the Madras University. The results of the University examinations were as follows :—"Successful students in the Matriculation Examination were 48 against 37 of the last year; in F. A. Examination 11 against 22; and in B. A. 8 against 9. There are also English schools in the districts." The percentage, which the youths of the various sections of the population sharing the benefits of elementary education in the district schools bear to the aggregate strength, is as follows :—Hindus 70 per cent., Christians 28, and Mahomedans 1. The number of vernacular schools of the different grades was as follows :—

		1051	1052
Village Schools	...	193	204
District Schools	...	29	29
Grant-in-aid Schools { At the Capital...	...	22	22
Grant-in-aid Schools { At Outstations.,	...	218	265
		245	287

There was a slight increase in the village schools. The number of District Schools was stationary. To the aided schools there was an accession of 47, a result highly gratifying. The average daily attendance stood thus :—

		1051	1052
Talook Schools	...	1776	1870
Village Schools	...	6967	7018
Grant-in-aid Schools	...	10,156	9,236

The pupils attending were of the following classes :—

	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Brahmins	1305	105	1410
Sudras	6518	871	7389
Pandy Do.	1207	57	1264
Other Hindus	1067	58	1125
Christians	1209	113	1322
Mohamedans	190	,,	190
Total.....	11466	1204	12,700

The number of Girls' Schools was the same as in the previous year. It will be thus seen that Travancore is a model Native State. It is fairly progressing in all branches of adminstration. The Chief of Travancore is a model prince, well educated, enlightened, amiable, and fully alive to his duties. The administration report does great credit to Mr. Sashia Sastri, the late minister. We hope the new minister will tread in his footsteps.

THE EXCHANGE QUESTION.

THE question of Indian exchanges was brought forward by Sir George Campbell in the House of Commons. He said that the value of the rupee had fallen 15 per cent., we should say 20 per cent. Sir George remarked that while all the great silver-using countries of the world had taken special precautions against the enormous change in the value of that metal, England, holding what he might call excessive free-trade doctrines, had simply allowed things to take their course. Germany had adopted the radical plan of changing her currency from silver to gold; in America silver had been made a legal tender, but the quantity of silver to be coined was restricted and regulated so as to prevent a glut. England alone had taken no action in the matter. He estimated the loss by exchage suffered by the Government of India at three millions per annum. He was of opinion that the adoption of a bi-metallic currency by the great silver-using countries, if it could be brought about at the forthcoming Silver Congress, would be of immense advantage in steadying monetary operations. What he wished the Government of India to do was to stop coining rupee till the existing rupees were exhausted, and then to coin rupees containing more silver than at present, so as to be of the value of the American half-dollar, and to form a half five-franc piece. A uniform currency would thus be established over a large part of the world. There was scarcely any debate worth the name upon this motion. Mr. Cave, however, made some important remarks. He gave a succinct history of the silver question. He said that the depreciation of the rupee was due chiefly to the enormous production of silver in the mines of Virginia County, in California, and from the demonetization of silver, or rather the substitution of gold for silver as the standard of value in Germany, in the Scandinavian kingdoms, and in the four countries of the Latin Convention. That depreciation was checked by the absorption of large quantities of silver by various countries, and especially by France. If, however, as appeared probable, the absorption should be temporary or should become greatly diminished, and the yield of the American mines continued at anything like the present rate, it seemed imminent that the depreciation would be still more serious. He admitted that the depreciation of silver had affected and must affect the Indian exchanges. At the same time these exchanges were affected still more by the large remittances made in bills from India, either sent by the greatly augmented European army or in payment of home charges, which had so seriously increased on account of the quantity of stores sent to India from England. Mr. Cave did not think that Sir George Campbell's remedy would really remove the evil. He remarked:

The hon. member proposed to rectify that state of things, which was doubtless very embarrassing, by, as far as he could understand, coining a new rupee which should contain a larger amount of silver than the present rupee. But, surely, that was a very curious prescription—to remedy a fall in the price of silver by lowering its value! Certainly that was so. He would put it in another way, which the hon. member would acknowledge at once to be accurate. Here was the Indian Coinage Act of 1870. He found this enactment in sections 4 and 7 :—"The gold mohur is to be worth 15 rupees of 180 grains each." Supposing the hon. member added 20 grains to each rupee and left the gold mohur still worth 15 rupees, did he not debase the silver? He did not debase the coin of course, but he debased the metal of which the coin was composed. By his plan the same quantity of gold would purchase a larger quantity of silver. If he altered the gold coin in proportion, of course he simply did nothing. He made these remarks on the supposition that we had a double standard in India. Practically we knew that there gold was merely bullion, and that at the present moment very much more than 15 rupees must be given for the gold mohur. In fact, it was impossible for legislation to alter the real value of bullion except to a very limited extent and under very despotic Governments. No one knew better than the hon. member that there were various rupees of the same nominal value in India at the present moment, and that sicca rupees, and especially the old sicca rupees, sold at a premium; that, in fact, they had practically ceased to be coin, they had become bullion; otherwise the least valuable must always drive out the more valuable which disappeared. When Sir Ralph Woodford was Governor of Trinidad silver dollars were exported to an inconvenient extent. To remedy this evil he stamped a small bit out of each dollar, and made a decree that it should be of the same value as before. What happened? The price of all commodities rose in proportion, and then the dollar was exported as before. If they could call in all the present rupees and recoin them at an enormous expense with a larger proportion of silver, they would make a present to th creditor and rob the taxpayer; and if they tried to remedy the untoward result by fractional compensation, they would cause immense trouble, and still greater knavery, discontent, and suspicion, of which there was an example in Bengal in 1835. They had something of the same kind in England, and, indeed, had it still in money of account, as it was still in many instances uncertain whether a guinea meant 20 shillings or 21. The hon. member proposed to limit the coinage, and instanced France. Doubtless France had managed well. The Bank of France had been admirably conducted. There was no limit to the issue of paper before the late war, but it was convertible and always at par. It was at par still, because the people had faith in the Bank and in the enormous stock of bullion contained in it. But when the hon. member talked of limiting the coinage of silver, it was rather inconsistent to propose at the same time to increase it, because there was no difference between adding 20 grains to the existing rupee and coining a rupee and one-ninth, where they now coined one rupee.

As for an international silver coin he doubts whether other countries would accept the proposal. In 1868 a Royal Commission was appointed under the presidency of Lord Halifax, which made some such proposal, but other countries did not respond to it. Mr. Hubbard was of opinion that there was no remedy for the evil. He said, "the evil under which India laboured was easily explained. Practically its whole currency was in silver, but it had contracted obligations which were payable in gold. The difficulty had arisen in other countries besides India, and he did not believe there was a remedy for it. He did not think the suggestions of the hon. member were practicable and if they were practically they would not be just. He regretted he could not concur in the view expressed by the hon. member who introduced the resolution that any practical or useful purpose would be served in India by an increase in the size of the rupee."

The Exchange question is certainly surrounded with grave difficulties, but the loss to India is serious. It is the absence of uniformity in the currency of the world, which is the root of the evil. It may not be practicable, as Mr. Cave said, to obtain a uniform international silver standard, but we venture to repeat our old idea whether it is not practicable for England to introduce a uniform silver standard throughout its vast dominions. The bulk of India's trade is with England and her colonies, and if she will consent to adopt a bimetallic currency, the difficulties, from which India is now suffering would be minimized. France has adopted it, and has been successful. Why should then England funk? Let England adopt a bimetallic currency for herself and her colonies and dependencies, and the moral force of her example is sure to have effect upon the world at large.

THE THANKS-GIVING MEETING.

SOMEBODY has said that there is no such word as gratitude in the Indian vocabulary. The Public Meeting held on the 6th instant to vote thanks to Mr. Gladstone and other M. Ps. for advocating the cause of the freedom of the Vernacular Press of India shews that whether or no the word gratitude has a place in the Indian vocabulary, though the statement is wholly false, the feeling of gratitude has a prominent place in the Indian heart. Well did Babu Surendranath Bannerjea, after describing in graphic and glowing terms the services rendered by Mr. Gladstone to the cause of humanity and freedom, ask: "Now, I ask, what has India to give him in return? What offering is she to

make to him? We cannot, indeed, raise for him a monument of brass. But we may do something which is worthier, better, nobler far. We may raise in the temples of our hearts an altar of homage, reverence and gratitude due to the greatest statesman and the most illustrious orator of the age. (Loud applause.) We shall preserve that altar, we shall enshrine it in our grateful recollections and hand it down as a sacred memento to our children and our children's children, so that it may not be said that we know not how to be grateful to those who have won our hearts, are worthy of our gratitude and have conferred great signal and lasting favors on us". The Thanks-giving Meeting was a noble vindication of the charge not unfrequently hurled against us that we as a nation know not what gratitude is.

We turn to the proceedings of the meeting. Of course there was not much to be done; the meeting passed a vote of thanks to the friends of the Vernacular Press in Parliament and appointed a Standing Committee to watch the operation of the Act. But what was said on the occasion was well said; the Rev. Mr. Macdonald again vindicated the liberty of the Vernacular Press. He said:

He knew a good deal of the Natives and the Native Press, and he did not think it was disloyal or increasing in seditious violence. He had paid a great deal of attention to the Native Press, and had, for a good while back, many years back, interested himself largely in the opinions and feelings of the people of the country. He mixed daily among them, not only amongst the young men, but amongst "Young Bengal" himself, and as far as he understood the charge brought against the Native Press, the charge was chiefly, and in the foremost place, applied to the young men of Bengal.

Now he had said he had mixed among the young men of Bengal for the last sixteen years. His feelings with regard to them was that it was almost ridiculous to believe in increasing violence among them, indicative of rebellion, or provocative of rebellion, the thing was ridiculous in his opinion.

He then alluded to the missionary interest in the Vernacular Press. He said:

As a missionary, he would direct the attention of the meeting to the fact that the missionary body in Calcutta was intimately connected with the Vernacular Press of Bengal, and at the last Church Conference, one of the very last questions recorded in the Minute-book was the connection of Missionary Societies with the Vernacular Press. It was one of the very first missionaries who printed and published the first Bengal newspaper, and after considerable care and labor, collected and published to the world a collection of the Vernacular Literature of Bengal; and after that again another missionary, the Rev. John Robinson, year after year, devoted almost the whole of his time to a consideration of the Vernacular Press of Bengal, and as far as he (the speaker) was aware, he never was of opinion that there were attempts made of the kind he had alluded to.

Babu Surendranath Bannerjea, who spoke next, poured forth torrents of eloquence. He was very happy in tracing the influence of English opinion upon Indian questions. He said:

It might be asked, why is it that we so highly value and greatly prize the influence of English opinion upon Indian questions, why is it that we are so anxious to secure the play of English opinion on Indian matters? The answer is plain. The political atmosphere of England is so very different from, and is so superior to, the political atmosphere of this country. I say this not by way of complaint, but I simply state a fact. England is a free country. She rejoices in the blessings of free institutions. India, on the other hand, is a despotic country. Her Government is despotic. Her administration is despotic. Her traditions are despotic. Her history is but the history of a despotic country. (Loud applause.) And never was the superiority of free institutions over despotic institutions more strikingly illustrated, than in the case of the controversy regarding the Vernacular Press Act. Gentlemen, those of you who read the newspapers, must know that some of the most influential exponents of Anglo-Indian opinion have upheld the principles of the Vernacular Press Act. But I believe that without a single exception, the leading organs of English opinion have condemned the policy of the Vernacular Press Act. Then, again the officials in India as a class approved the Act, seemed to congratulate one another on having hit upon the happy expedient, of having got rid of a troublesome nuisance by gagging the Vernacular Press. I know there has been an honorable exception, but that exception only proves my contention. But let us observe for one moment the attitude of some Indian officials in England. There in the dark chambers of the Indian Council, I say dark, because the deliberations of that Council seldom see the light—there were statesmen combining vast knowledge with experience, men who held high and exalted positions in India—one a late Lieutenant-Governor, the second a late Chief Justice, the third a Resident at Hyderabad—who all condemned the Act in unmeasured terms, refuted the arguments adduced in support of it, with a power of earnestness and eloquence, with a precision of thought and language, which while they do immense credit to their sagacity and statesmanship, have enhanced greatly the respect, which we all feel for them. (Loud Cheers.) Here, again, in the Lagislative Council of India, members vied with one another in supporting the principles of the Act. There was not a single dessentient voice raised against it. But in England, and in that most august assembly in the world, where are gathered together the representatives of the most illustrious statesmen that have adorned the pages of history—the representatives of Pitt, Burke, Sheridan and Chatham, there were so many as 152 Members and more, who reprobated and condemned in one way or other, the provisions of this Gagging Act (Loud cheers.) Gentlemen, there is one fact connected with this debate which to my mind seems to possess peculiar interest. The political atmosphere of England seems to have had a salutary effect even upon the mind of an Indian Governor. Sir George Campbell declared, from his place in the House of Commons, that he was a waverer that he was inclining from the school of repression towards the school of freedom, that, in short, he was in favor of the adoption of liberal principles, in the administration of the Indian Empire. I wish to speak of Sir George Campbell with the utmost possible respect. He was our late Lieutenant-Governor, and as such, had earned his title to our gratitude by the impetus he gave to the cause of mass education. But it did not strike us while he was here, that he was particularly in favor of advanced views or liberal principles. Those of you who have read the Blue-Book, will bear in mind, that it was Sir George Campbell, who first set that machinery in motion which produced the Vernacular Press Act, for it was he who, in August 1873, first called the attention of the Government of India, to the supposed excesses of the Vernacular Press. But his indeas have now apparently changed under the influence of a healthier political atmosphere. Such, indeed, gentlemen, is the influence of English ideas and views upon the mind of even a trained despot. (Hear, hear.) But the healthy influence of English ideas is still more manifest in the recorded opinions of those high officials in India, who opposed the enactment of the Vernacular Press Law. It will be found, in glancing through the pages of the Blue-Book, that the English officials in India, who condemned the Vernacular Press Act, had been all brought up in the free political atmosphere of England, and were imbued with that spirit of liberality which is begotten of free institutions. Who was it that liberated the Press—English or Native? It was an English lawyer, the great Lord Macaulay. Who was it again that protested, in language of surpassing earnestness and vigour, the attempt to gag the Native Press of India? It was again an English lawyer, Sir Arthur Hobhouse. Who was it, I ask among Provincial Governors, that raised his voice of warning and protest against this Act? It was the Duke of Buckingham, the descendant of an illustrious line of English nobles—a statesman thoroughly imbued with the spirit of the free institutions of his country, and one who had sat as a Cabinet Minister, with honor and credit to himself. Gentlemen, it is I believe, not the etiquette to thank, in public meetings, officials who may have rendered great service in the performance of their public duties; but I think, we should not be doing justice to our own feelings, if we did not take advantage of this public meeting, to express, in the most empatic manner, our deep gratitude to His Grace the Duke of Buckingham, and his Council, to Sir Arthur Hobhouse, to Sir Erskine Perry, Sir William Muir, and Colonel Yule, for the worthy and honorable stand they made against the Vernacular Press Act, and for so nobly vindicating, in the eyes of the millions of this country the reputation of the British Government for liberality and enlightenment.

Babu Surendranath expressed the regret of the nation when he deplored the lack of interest in England in Indian matters. We extract the following from this part of his speech:

"There is, unfortunately, a great apathy on the part of English statesmen, with regard to Indian matters. It is not for me to enquire into the cause of this apathy and indifference. I simply state the fact before the meeting. But I am not going to exculpate Englishmen for their indifference, with regard to Indian matters. You have all heard the story of the woman and of Mahmoud, the Ghuznevite conqueror. There lived in a remote province of Mahmoud's extensive dominions, a woman who had descended far into the vale of life. The province, where she lived, was not remarkable for the vigor and energy of its administration. One evening she witnessed her house burnt down, her children massacred, and her goods plundered by a body of robbers. But she was a woman whose mind was cast in a mould of more than ordinary vigor and sternness. She was determined to obtain her redress. Straightway she sought the royal capital. Arrived at Ghuzni she prayed for an audience. The audience was granted, Mahmoud received her. She unfolded her sad tale of sorrow and grief—of her massacred children, her plundered goods, her burnt-down house, of the agonies she had had endured, of the feeling of despair that had crawled through her bones. The relentless monarch heard her tale of sorrow, with imperturbable calmness and indifference. A man of blood, given to slaughter, sporting in carnage and in plunder, it was not to be expected that a tale of this kind would very much move or affect him. "Woman," Mahmoud dryly remarked, "you live in a remote province of my Empire, and you cannot expect me to maintain order there, or to extend to it protection of my laws. The woman calmly replied, "Sire, why then do you conquer countries, to whose concerns you cannot pay sufficient attention, and for which you cannot hold yourself answerable in the day of judgment?(Loud and continued applause.) Gentlemen, it is not for me to reply to Englishmen and English statesmen in the language of this woman. It is not for me to say (deeply sensible, as I am of the blessings of British rule) that Englishmen had no business to conquer and govern India, if they could not pay sufficient attention to its important interests. It is not for me to say that the responsibilities of England are not ended by her appointing a body of administrators to govern this country, and then leaving them to the discretion of their own wills. This is a matter which it is for Englishmen and English statesmen to decide.

These remarks, coming so soon after Mr. Fawcett's protest in the House of Commons against scanty attendance on the occasion of the debate upon the Indian Budget, will doubtless have some effect in England.

We have not space for more extracts. We, however, desire to say that the programme of the meeting was well conceived and well executed.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES.

AS WE stated last week the resident Doctors of the University in Calcutta, both European and Native, with the exception of Dr. Macleod, have resigned their seats in the Medical Faculty, but the Syndicate have not received their resignations, because they hold that a Fellow must remain attached to some Faculty. The logical sequence would be that the Doctors should be asked to resign the Senate. But we hear that they have been asked to rejoin the Faculty as Dr. Sircar has resigned. This is an excellent way of punishing insubordination! Is not this action of the Syndicate a cruel commentary on the resolution of the Senate? On the other hand we hear Dr. Sircar will be transferred to the Faculty of Engineering. With what consistency, may we ask, will the Doctors join the Medical Faculty again after having resigned it on principle?

CHINA it would seem would be the next *corvus vile* in Asia upon which the European Powers will operate. The following telegram from Berlin speaks for itself:

"Negociations between Germany and China concerning the abolition of the Pekin duties, which are in opposition to the stipulations of the German and Chinese Commercial Treaty have been frustrated because the Pekin Government has recanted the concessions previously made to Herr von Brandt, German Ambassador at Pekin. Apparently the Chinese Government has believed that the Eastern complications would lead to a European war, which would prevent the Powers from paying attention to their commercial affairs with China. Negociations are now pending between the Powers, especially between England and Germany with a view to bring about a common proceeding of the Powers against China.'

But China is reviving and is not likely to give in without a hard struggle.

THE SCANDAL of the Surat trials is growing apace. We give the following extract from the *Bombay Gazette*:

At the trial of the Surat editors, an important matter cropped upon Tuesday, the 3rd instant, which on that and the two following days exercised the ingenuity of Counsel, and must have seriously occupied the thoughts of the presiding Judge. Both the prosecution and the defence felt that a very material issue hung in the balance in connection with it; and the most strenuous efforts were doubtless made to turn the scale in favour of one side or the other. On the 3rd instant three witnesses were called for the prosecution, namely Mirza Azumbeg Mirza Amirbeg, Ambaram Jivun, and Currim Lutiff Abdul Lutiff, who one after another turned round upon the prosecution and stated that, intimidated by the Police and awed by the threat which Motilal held out of getting them transported as rioters unless they gave evidence in Gulubdass' case, they attended at night at a Boras bungalow, situated near the Varriav Bhagal to be tutored in the evidence which they were told to give against the accused. That bungalow, they alleged, was used as a night *rendezvous* where Motilal and Lullubhoy Vakil "coached the witnesses for the prosecution. The evidence of these witnesses, if true, was felt to be a blow which was very likely to knock the prosecution, on the head. The prosecution, therefore, lost no time in calling Lullubhoy Vakil, who on the following day attempted to foil the blow by absolutely denying the truth of the allegations of the three men, who were of course very inferior to him in character as well as in position. The issue, important as it was, therefore became narrowed to this, whether the evidence of Lullubhoy or of the three men was entitled to credit? The defence accordingly strained every nerve to discredit Lullubhoy in other matters as well as in the matter connected with the Police *rendezvous*. Lullubhoy, in cross examinations, gave certain details of a visit which he had paid to the accused Golabdass in jails. Mr. Gill, Counsel for the defence, who thought he had decoyed Lullubhoy into a trap, suddenly made an earnest appeal to the Judge, in the interest of justice, to send for the jailer without any delay which might lead to a suspicion, as the learned Counsel said he was instructed that the evidence of the jailer would enable the learned Judge to test the corractness of Lullubhoy's allegations. The suggestion was acted upon with the result that the jailer, an East Indian gentleman of respectable appearance, contradicted Lullubhoy Vakil in material points.

In the meantime the funds of the prisoners are exhausted, and they are left without Counsel. A public subscription has been accordingly set on foot to assist them. We wish this movement every success.

WE ACKNOWLEDGE with thanks from Messrs. Thacker Spink & Co., a copy of the third edition of Mr. C. D. Field's Law of Evidence. This book is a monument of Mr. Field's learning, industry, and research. It is a valuable commentary on the text. The notes are full and copious and no source has been left untouched, which could throw light upon the subject. In the present edition the portion of the work, says the author, which treats of the subject of *res judicata* has been re-written. The provisions of the Registration Act, and of the new Code of Civil Procedure connected with the subject of Evidence, have been substituted for the former similar provisions now repealed. With this book in hand the judge or the advocate should not feel any difficulty in interpreting the Indian Law of Evidence.

WE ACKNOWLEDGED last week the receipt of a petition of Babu Gopikissen Gossain of Serampore to the Lieutenant Governor of Bengal anent the proceedings of Mr. Haggard, the Magistrate of Serampore, and Mr. Grant, Sessions Judge of Hooghly, against himself and two servants of his. The petition is a remarkable document. It thus begins:

In submitting this memorial to your Honor, your memorialist will first dwell upon the indignities and humiliation which have been put upon him *illegally*, and that your memorialist has been made to suffer

these indignities, and this humiliation, at the instigation, and through the means of the officers deputed by the Government to administer the laws in the district, and having judicial authority over hundreds of thousands of the subjects of the State.

After briefly describing the leading features of the case the petitioner states that in order to obtain justice he has been put to the expense of Rs. 636-5-3, which was of course of no practical importance to a rich man like him, but he justly asks what would have been his fate if he had not had a long purse for the protection of his liberty and honor. The petition thus concludes:

In conclusion your memorialist has no other motive, or desire, in trespassing on your Honor's time, in taking this step, than to aid in preventing the maladministration of the law bringing both it, and the administrators into disrepute, and mistrust, with the millions of the inhabitants of this country. Your memorialist will be almost content to have borne the indignities, the humiliation, and the large pecuniary cost he has been put to, in defending his personal liberty against a malicious, disgraceful, and above all illegal prosecution, and prosecution, if he has succeeded in fixing your Honor's attention, not merely on the facts of your memorialist's case, but on the principles involved, which are so pregnant with the well-being and progress of the natives of India.

We hope the petition will not meet with the usual fate of *shamata nuthee*.

THE PHARMACEUTICAL JOURNAL of London has the following notice of Indian drugs in the Paris Exhibition:

"One series which is arranged alongside of the samples of different kinds of wood, illustrates forestry and the various products, gums, roots, barks, fibres etc derived from the trees and plants. This portion is exceedingly well arranged, all the specimens being carefully labelled and numbered, and grouped according to their natural orders, so that it is easy to find any specimen that one may wish to see. This collection has been sent by Dr. Brandis, and is accompanied by an excellent catalogue. The other series consists of a large number of specimens, in small glazed boxes badly labelled and badly preserved. Apparently two or three sets of the same article have been sent for many duplicates are noticeable. Some of the specimens are without labels and have evidently had to be named after their arrival at Paris, and must have entailed an immense amount of unnecessary labour upon the manager of this department. Another collection of indigenous drugs, arranged by Kanye Lall Dey, consist of a number of small specimens of indigenous drugs neatly labelled."

We should mention that Babu Kanyelal Dey had to bear the whole cost of making this collection.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Englishman* complains that in making lists of assessees of the License tax the Chairman of the Calcutta Municipality makes no distinction between first and second class merchants. All have been honored with seat in the first class. Of course the aggrieved can appeal, but it was never the intention of the legislature that assessments should be made haphazard, and the assesses should be goaded to appeal. Referring to this case the *Englishman* says: "we have since received numerous complaints of the indiscriminating manner in which the assessments are being made. The plan adopted appears to be to assume that every trader doing any business that can possibly bring him within the category of a merchant, is liable to pay the maximum rate, until the contrary is proved. This is no doubt a thoroughly native mode of procedure, and is well adapted to minimise the assessor's labour, but at the same time it is calculated to produce the maximum of injustice and irritation. When the legislature adopted the system of classification to obviate the need for annoying enquiry into peoples' affairs, it certainly never contemplated the adoption of such an alternative as this by the executive." We do not understand why our contemporary calls this mode of assessment "a native mode." We believe the assessors in China Bazar and Radha Bazar Streets are not natives, and even if they were natives, they have acted under instructions, which have proceeded from the Chairman of the Municipality. The legislature is partly to blame for this result. It has vested all powers under the License Tax Act in the Chairman and in him alone. The Chairman again acts under the instructions of the Board of Revenue. So the wholesale surcharge complained of is not the result of "a native mode of assessment," but of the instructions issued by the Chairman and the Board of Revenue. Our contemporary remarks:

"In many of the cases in which traders have been assessed in the highest class, the smallness of the business done by them is so obvious that the assessor must have known perfectly well that his action was not justifiable. In many other cases the mistake might have been avoided, had the simplest inquiries been made. Possibly the idea is that many people will prefer paying more than can be justly claimed of them to going through the formality of an appeal with its attendant annoyances, and that therefore the largest amount will be netted for the public treasury by throwing the burden of proof on the public.

If its treasury were all Government had to care for, this reasoning would be conclusive. But in a country already driven to the verge of desperation by the heavy fiscal burdens with which it is loaded, one would suppose that prudent rulers would go to work as tenderly and cautiously as possible in adjusting a new tax, instead of irritating thousands for the chance of an individual here and there submitting patiently to be fleeced. Respect for either the feelings or the opinion of the public, however, is not one of the weaknesses of the present regime. Whether it is at Surat or in Bombay, or in Calcutta, it is essentially the same story. Not even the appearance of justice is studied; not even a pretence of regard for the good will of the governed is made."

We entirely concur. But the remarks made by our contemporary only confirm our position that the oppressions incidental to the assessment and levy of a direct tax in this country far outweigh its financial return. Hence it was we opposed the reduction of the salt duty and the continuance of the License tax.

IS MR. METCALFE determined to bring the Municipality into disrepute? Sir Stuart Hogg was *zubberdust*, but he did not indulge in petty oppressions, nor stoop to take money without the sanction of law. Nowhere does the Municipal law provide that a person is liable to pay the night-soil fee when he owns no privy and receives no night-soil service. But the Chairman has ruled that every occupier of house or land whether there is a privy upon it or no and whether any service is rendered on account of it or no must pay the night-soil fee. This is wholly illegal, and the Commissioners have repeatedly expressed their opinion to that effect. But the Chairman does not care for the opinion of the Commissioners, and has ordered the Vice-Chairman to levy the fee in such cases *nolens volens*, and he, poor fellow! must obey the orders of his superior. In some cases where the party has been strong the fee has been remitted. A notable case of this kind was that of Babu Juggunnath Sen of Nimtolla Street, medical practitioner. This gentleman has a piece of land, which bears a separate municipal number, adjoining his house. It was occupied by a coach-builder; the night soil fee was assessed upon this premises, but as it had no privy, he refused to pay, and as the Municipality would not listen to him, he shut shop and left the place. Babu Juggunnath was thus made a loser through the action of the Municipality. He then used the land for his stables and told the syces to use the servants' privy in his own house. But the Municipality again charged him the night-soil fee. He brought the case to our notice, and we advised him to appeal to the Assessment Appeal Committee to decide whether a premises which had no privy and received no night-soil service was liable to the night-soil fee. Accordingly he submitted a petition to the Chairman, who instead of referring the matter to the Assessment Appeal Committee, which would have decided the general question, remitted the fee in this individual case. But in other cases the fee is illegally exacted as it was sought to be in this case. We observe that an exactly similar case lately turned up, in which the fee was realized by distress warrant. But the Chairman it would appear caught a Tartar in the person concerned. Babu Hurroprasad Ghose is a respectable native gentleman of this city; he made three applications against the illegal exaction, but as usual no attention was paid to them. On the contrary the fee was realized as we have stated by distress warrant. He paid the fee and costs, and sued the Municipality in the Small Cause Court for the recovery of the same. Mr. White, the Fifth Judge, who tried the suit, decreed it in favour of the plaintiff. In delivering judgment the Judge made the following remarks:

"Though the defendant Municipality pleads not guilty, yet it has taken no steps to prove its innocence. If there is night soil to remove, what could have been easier than to have produced the very Mehters who remove it? After the plaintiff had been examined the pleader for the defence closed his case, refusing to call evidence, or to put any of the servants of the defendant Municipality into the box. The plaintiff's statement therefore, stands unrebutted. It is a plain straightforward statement, given without bias and unshaken by cross-examination. The plaintiff apparently is a gentleman of independent means and respectability, and there is no suggestion, even on the part of the defendant, that his statement is improbable, exaggerated or untrue, or that he has any motive for instituting a malicious suit. The plaintiff's evidence, therefore, is the strongest on the record and proves to my satisfaction that Mehters' duties have not only never been performed in respect of the plaintiff's coach-house and stables at No. 26, Bolaram Ghose's Street, but are not being performed there now. The measures therefore that the defendant Municipality adopted were unauthorized by law: and as plaintiff, to save the sale of his carriage and horses, paid the money involuntarily, he is entitled to recover. (*Hall vs. The Mayor of Swansea*, 5, Q. B. p. 526.)

I do not wish to conclude this decision without first remarking upon the unpretentious way by which the plaintiff, on the face of great provocation had sought his remedy. From first to last his conduct has been consistently judicious and free of bias, which conduct, I am surprised to find the Municipality has not made one single effort to recognize. An omission to investigate or even take notice of a reasonable complaint; an appearance in this Court in the position of a defendant unprovided with explanation or denial, but relying solely on technicalities for protection, is on the part of a Corporation entrusted with the exercise of important administrative powers over a large population, in a celebrated city, an attitude of a most unusual and singular type. Totally disregarding the plaintiff's representations, a determined and continuous pressure was put upon him to pay these rates. How and with what object it was that the subordinate officers came to supply their superiors with information, which from the evidence before the Court appears to be untrue—how it was that though the fees were fixed in December they were not realized until June, and the reason why the plaintiff's complaint was not enquired into, are matters that a departmenal investigation will perhaps bring to light."

This case affords a noteworthy illustration of the position which we lately asserted that in many executive matters the Commissioners get the blame of the actions taken by the Chairman and his subordinates. We do not hesitate to say that the Commissioners had no knowledge of this wretched night-soil case whatever. The assessment was wholly contrary to their own opinion, which had been repeatedly impressed upon the Chairman. On referring to the proceedings of the Assessment Appeal Committee, presided over by Mr. O. C. Dutt, held on the 26th ultimo, we observe that for the first time some applications were submitted before them for the remission of the night-soil on the grounds under notice. The Committee resolved that as, under the 2nd clause of Section 244 of Act IV. (B. C.) of 1876, the occupier of a house or land in respect of which night-soil service is not required to be performed is exempted from the payment of night-soil fees, the request of the petitioner be complied with, and that he be refunded the amount of fee (Rs. 1-8) paid by him for the 2nd quarter of 1878. The veriest tyro in law we submit could have seen that a person, who did not receive the night-soil service was not liable to the night-soil fee. And yet the Chairman, a quandom first grade Magistrate and Commissioner, deliberately goes on levying the fee with all the heavy pains and penalties of the distress law. When the present suit was instituted in the Calcutta SmallCause Court it was not brought to the notice of the Commissioners. The extraordinary defence was the Chairman's own. But the *budnam* falls upon the Commissioners, for the Chairman acts in their name. When the resumption of lakhiraj lands was made under Mr. Ross Donelly Mangles' Act, the late Babu

Dwarkanath Tagore denounced it at a public meeting as "mid-day robbery." But is not this case worse than mid-day robbery, for it had not even the slightest colour of law? The question is how can this scandalous state of things be prevented? If the Chairman will not obey the law or the Commissioners, the Government which appointed him must take notice of his conduct. We hold the Government responsible for the present state of things in the Municipality.

WE GIVE below the address presented to the Lieutenant Governor at Rampore Bauleah by the Rajshahye Association headed by the Hon'ble the Raja Promothonath Rai of Digaputtya:

To—HIS HONOR SIR ASHLEY EDEN—Knight Commander of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India Companion of the Order of the Indian Empire, Lieutenant Governor of Bengal, &c. &c. &c,

May it please your Honor.

We on behalf of the Rajshahye Association most humbly beg leave to welcome your Honor to the capital of our district The presence of the representative of the sovereign among the people is always hailed by them with feelings of joy and veneration. This occasion is especially gratifying to the people of this district to be thus able to welcome your Honor as their present ruler to this Town where you passed the early days of your official life.

As it is not often that we have opportunities of meeting our ruler, it is natural that we should not allow this occasion to pass away without making known to him our wants and prayers.

The system of trial by jury is in existense in many districts in Bengal. As Rajshahye is one of the advanced districts in this Province, we humbly beg that your Honor will take into your kind consideration whether the same system should not be extended to this district.

The Head quarters of the Commissioner of this Division were in this Town till the Civil Court buildings were washed off by the Pudma. As the Commissioner's Office at Julpigoree has been destroyed by fire we take this opportunity to repeat our prayer, contained in a previous memorial, that the head quarters of the Commissioner may be now removed to this Town.

We are grateful to your Honor for the support you have been pleased to give to the establishment of Appeal Benches. The people of this district will be extremely thankful to your Honor for the formation in this Town of an Appeal Bench intended to secure a better system of Judicial administration.

The people see with great alarm the gradual silting up of the rivers in the interior of the district, putting a stop to water communication much to their inconvenience and distress. They are however glad to learn that the subject has already drawn your Honor's attention.

We are greatly thankful to your Honor for the sanction kindly given to the establishment of the Rajshahye College. We are glad to be able to inform your Honor that there are now already seven students in the third year class, although the College was opened without previous arrangements and without a European Principal. We hope that by making over to Government the fund of the College which the Rajshahye Association have resolved to do before the end of December, the permanent interests of the College will be insured. We also take this opportunity to state that the success of the institution will materially depend upon the selection of a competent European Principal and we beg to submit that so long as it is not placed under such an officer its success cannot be fairly tested.

We are your Honor's most obedient servants

Baulea, the September 1878.

His Honor replied to the following effect:

GENTLEMEN,—I must ask you to accept my best thanks for the address which you have been good enough to present to me.

I will consult the High Court as to your request to extend to this district the system of trial by jury. Though it is very desirable that every encouragement should be given to the people to take part themselves in the administration of justice, I cannot shut my eyes to the fact that the duty of serving on a jury is more often looked upon as an irksome duty than as a privilege while from the social conditions of the country trial by jury is not in every class the best form of trial which can be desired.

I am already taking measures for the transfer of the Head-Quarters of the Commissioner to its old position in this district. The main difficulty is want of accommodation and this I am now endeavouring to meet.

The question of Appeal Benches has been laid before the Government of India by my predecessor and by myself sometime ago, the subject is still under the consideration of the Governor General in Council. It is a large question and one which cannot be hastily dealt with. I hope that before long I shall receive the orders of His Excellency in Council on the subject.

The silting up of the rivers has already received considerable attention from me and I am afraid that little can be done to remedy the inconveniences which are caused by the natural tendency of the rivers to shift to the west and take up fresh beds. I have called for a report on the possibility of improving the channels in the Chullan bheel.

So soon as the funds which have been promised for the permanent endowment of the College are received which I am glad to believe will be before the close of the year I hope to be able to appoint a European Principal to the College and in the meantime I am glad to believe that the College classes are making great progress under the able head master.

11th September 1878.

THE ROAD CESS DEFALCATIONS OF NUDDEA

I

FROM OUR KRISHNAGORE CORRESPONDENT.

While thanking you, and your correspondents for drawing public attention to the defalcations in the Road Cess Fund of the Nuddea Treasury I hasten to write something more about them. In the absence of the official reports submitted, on this case, by Mr. Boyce, Examiner P. Works Accounts, Bengal, and Mr. Stevens, the late Collector and Magistrate of Nuddea, it is next to impossible for a newspaper correspondent, to be strictly accurate in all the informations which he supplies to the public. Prejudicial as these involuntary inaccuracies might prove to those who are immediately concerned in the matter, it would be well, on the part of the Government to publish these official reports, if it could do so without compromising itself. The case under notice is so remarkable for the heavy amount embezzled for a period of more than 7 years, entailing responsibility upon so many high officers of Government, from the Accountant General of Bengal to the Treasury Accountant, that, in the interest of public justice, as well for the sake of the officials concerned, the Government should publish the official reports. Nothing short of their publication would dispel the erroneous impressions from the public mind. The perusal of the report of Mr. Stevens on this case can not but suggest to the reader a serious and important question in connection with the general working of district administration. Mr. Stevens is no urchin civilian, fresh from England, without any knowledge and experience of the district he was appointed to rule. Among the civilian Magistrates of Bengal, he is one of the most experienced and able. As such any statement from him is sure to carry great weight with the public and the Government. In justice to him it should be stated here that in his official report he makes a full and frank confession as to the amount of responsibility which lies upon him, for the inability to detect the systematic fraud committed by Bani Gopal, for a series of years, without detection or suspicion. And does the reader want to know the plea he urged on his behalf, for his doing so? He says, that the Magistrate of a district, is so overworked, since the time of Sir George Campbell, and has to attend to so many multifarious duties in connection with the various departments under his charge, that it is impossible for him not to trust his subordinates. So he thought Bani Gopal to be beyond suspicion like Cæsar's wife of old. The Road Cess Committee, composed of men of good education and high social position, was a body which existed *more in name than in the flesh* and when such is the case in such an advanced district as Nuddea, is it worth while to have such sham committees to control the affairs of the Mufusil Road Cess Fund?

Now let us turn to the history of the embezzlement case. The systematic course of fraud began with the beginning of 1872 and ended not till the close of 1877. From 1872 to 1st October 1875, when the organization of the Road Cess Department first came into operation, the working of the department was under the joint supervision of the Magistrate Mr. Stevens and Mr. Forbes, an Executive Engineer of the Public Works Department. On the creation of the new department, a native Engineer Babu Dwarka Nath Sircar, was appointed as its head, from the 1st October 1875 and since then, up to the present time, all the departmental business is being done by him.

From 1872, to July 1875, Bani Gopal, it has now been ascertained by Mr. F. R. Boyce, forged 69 cheques which originally stood for Rs. 729-4-8 afterwards altered into Rs. 61, 610-4-8.

During this period the work of the department was done by officers of the Public Works Department and all the money sanctioned for the purpose was to go through the hands of Bani Gopal. Mr. Boyce says, that in consequence of scarcity felt in the district, on account of Bengal Famine, Rs. 98, 115 was spent on relief works, during this period Bani Gopal being the chief accountant of the department, without any one to look after his accounts, made the most of the opportunty to enrich himself by illegal means of forgery and defalcation. It is also ascertained, that no books of accounts were kept by him during this time of anarchy in the Road Cess Department of Nuddea. From December 1875 to January 1877, eleven more cheques were forged and the amount drawn by him, out of which 7 were for Rs. 13 each afterwards altered, into Rs. 15,401 and the other 4 cheques were for Rs. 27 each, altered into Rs. 8605. Out of this Rs. 15,401, were realized, from Bani Gopal's relative last year,

He used to draw cheques for the contingent and establishment charges of small amount, first in his name and then in the name of the Collector himself and after obtaining his signature to them, he used not only to manipulate figures, according to his own sweet will, but to write, such words as *Road repairs, Road Cess Work. Road, Operations*, and *contingency*. This was purposely done to avoid all suspicion of forgery.

As the form of the cheque was different at different times from what it now is, he had the utmost latitude in proceeding with his nefarious doings. Mr. Boyce says that in 1872, the form of the cheque was similar to that of Chowkedari fund; it was then altered into a form which required the amount to be written both in figures and words; and in this way it underwent many changes till it reached the present aspect. Besides, the cheque-book was in Bani's hand and so, whenever he liked, he used to draw cheques without let or hinderance. As has been stated above, the want of official supervision of his work, led him not to keep regular accounts at all, and tempted him, in direct contravention of the rule, not to keep the pass-book which first came into use from 1st of November 1873. He used to submit quarterly reports to the Accountant General, after comparing his rough statement with the treasury account for the same period.

Thus as regards the manner in which the discovery of his forgery was made, it is stated that sometime in 1876 the Accountant General of Bengal, finding from the balance sheets, that certain amount of money had been overdrawn he directed the treasury officer of Nuddea to request the Chairman of the Road Cess Committee to bring his road fund balances into accord with the treasury balance. On examination of the records of Bani Gopal by Babu Dwarka Nath the fraud was detected, which being brought to the notice of Government led to further discovery in the matter. Mr. Boyce says that, besides those 80 cheques mentioned above there are more 90 cheques still to be examined; but these cheques are not forthcoming from the Accountant General's Office.

Then as to the question of the complicity of other men in this system of fraud Mr. Stevens is decidedly of opinion that Bani Gopal had had no accomplices in the matter. In the trial of Bani Gopal before the Sessions Courts an ttempt was made by the defence to show some suspicion on the treasury accountant and the treasury officer, but it was all in vain. Mr. Stevens, in his annual report after giving a full and elaborated history of the fraud throws the blame upon all who had any the least connection with the department. In the first place condemning himself for what had happened he finds fault with the treasury officers and the treasury accountant for not being able to detect the fraud. He leaves the Government to decide what amount of responsibility lies upon the Accountant General's Office. He is of opinion that the annual examination of the records of the Road Cess Department by Mr. Moore and Mr. Wilson, Assistants to Mr. Boyce, Examiner Public Works Accounts, Bengal, was of no value, inasmuch as instead of detection of fraud it led to a "sense of false security." As extenuating circumstances he pleads in his favour, the arduous task he had to perform during the famine of 1874 and says that he spared neither "*health*" nor strength." to do all the duties of his office besides giving his opinion on many important state matters which occupied a considerable portion of his time. On behalf of the treasury officers, he pleads their past good services. In 1872, when Mr. Stevens was on leave, Mr. Oldham was in charge of the district and as such he comes within the category of those who are responsible for the fraud. Mr. Mosley, who acted for him, for sometime comes also on in the list. The following officers were in charge of the treasury during the fraud, Mr. Page, Mr. Ricketts, Mr. Oldham, Mr. Mosley Mr. Stevans, Babus Durga Das Chowdhry (not Banerjea), Lolit Mohun Chatterjea (not Ray), Kally Prosaud Sircar, Poresh Nath Sukul.

The heaviest amount drawn by Bani Gopal was during Babu Poresh Nath's incumbency. He stated in the official report that this was in consequence of the pressure of the famine expenditure, which left him no time to scrutinise sufficiently those forged cheques. He used to send daily advices to the district Engineer, of the amount drawn by Bani, and how notwithstanding all these means of detection the fraud went on undetected, is inexplicable. He also drew attention of the chairman to the want of the pass-book in the Road Cess Office but to no effect.

As I have exceeded my limit I cut short here and shall continue the subject in my next.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

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Government Notifications

Calcutta Gazette,—*September* 11, 1878.

GENERAL.—Baboo Okhoy Coomar Bose, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Dinagepore, is transferred to the Sudder Station of the Manbhoom district.

Baboo Lolit Mohun Chatterjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Chittagong, on leave, is transferred to Dinagepore.

Baboo Nobin Chunder Gooho acted as a temporary Sub-Deputy Collector of the Second Grade in Backergunge from the 25th May to the 19th June last, *vice* Baboo Petamber Banerjee, deputed to the License Tax Department.

Mr. C. S. Bayley, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, who has, under separate orders of this date, been appointed to have charge of the Goalundo division of the Furreedpore district, is vested with the powers of a Deputy Collector.

Mr. S. S. Jones, Officiating Assistant Commissioner, Hazareebagh, is allowed leave for fourteen days under rule 1, Chapter VIII of the Civil Leave Code, to enable him to attend the High Proficiency Examination in Hindee, to be held in Calcutta in October 1878.

The Right Hon'ble the Secretary of State for India has granted one month's extension of furlough to Mr. N. S. Alexander, C. S.

Moulvi Syed Obēdollah, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Rungpore, is transferred to Gya, and is appointed to have charge of the Aurungabad division of the district.

Moulvi Azharul Huq, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, in temporary charge of the Aurungabad division of the Gya district, is transferred to Sewan, in Sarun.

Moulvi Syed Mohamed Israil, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Kishoregunge, in Mymensingh, is transferred to the Sudder Station of the Rungpore district.

Baboo Khetter Gopal Roy, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Jessore, is transferred to Mymensingh, and is appointed to have charge of the Kishoregunge division of that district.

In supersession of the orders of the 2nd instant, Mr. C. S. Bayley, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, 24-Pergunnahs, is transferred to Jessore.

Mr. F. R. S. Collier, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, in charge of the Magoorah division of the Jessore district, is appointed to have charge of the Goalundo division of the Furreedpore district during the absence, on leave, of Mr R. Carstairs, or until further orders.

Baboo Protap Chunder Chatterjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Jessore, is appointed until further orders, to have charge of the Magoorah division of that district.

Baboo Soorja Coomar Sen Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Backergunge, is allowed leave for nine days, under Section 9, Supplement F to the Civil Leave Code, in extension of that granted to him under orders of the 29th July last.

Baboo Kanti Chunder Chatterjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Monghyr, is allowed leave for three months under the rules in Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code.

Baboo Kali Prosanna Sircar, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Serampore, Hooghly, having resumed charge of his duties on the afternoon of the 2nd instant, the unexpired portion of the leave granted to him under orders dated the 24th May last is cancelled.

Baboo Sree Nath Chatterjee, temporary Sub-Deputy Collector, Hajeepore in Mozufferpore, is appointed temporarily to be a Sub-Deputy Collector of the First Grade, *vice* Baboo Ashootosh Sircar, and is posted to the district of Durbhunga.

Moonshee Kootubooddeen is appointed temporarily to be a Sub-Deputy Collector of the Second Grade at Hajeepore in Mozufferpore, *vice* Baboo Sree Nath Chatterjee.

Baboo Rajendra Nath Roy, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, lately employed under the District Road Cess Commitee of Patna, is posted to the district of Gya, with effect from the date on which he joined that district.

Baboo Rajendro Nath Roy is vested with the powers of a Collector under Act X (B.C.) of 1871.

POLICE.—Baboo Joggodish Nath Roy, District Superintendent of Police, Tipperah is allowed furlough in India for one year seven months and fifteen days, under Section 7 Supplement F to the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 16th November next.

MEDICAL.—Surgeon-Major R. Harvey is appointed to be Civil Surgeon of the 24-Pergunnahs *vice* Dr. E. J. Gayer, deceased. Dr. Harvey will continue to act as professor of Midwifery, Medical College, Calcutta, Superintendent-General [Vaccination during the absence on leave, of Dr. T. E. Charles or until further orders.

Surgeon J. F. P. McConnel, Resident Physician, Medical College Hospital, Calcutta, and Professor of Pathology, Medical College, is appointed to act as Civil Surgeon of the 24-Pergunnahs during the absence, on deputation of Dr. R. Harvey, or until further orders.

Assistant Surgeon Abhoy Coomar Sen, attached to the sub-division and dispensary of Jehanabad, in Burdwan, is allowed leave for three months under the rules in Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 1st October next.

Assistant Surgeon Kunja Lal Sanyal, doing duty in the Medical College Hospital, is appointed to have medical charge of the sub-division and dispensary of Jahanabad, in Burdwan, during the absence, on leave, of Assistant Surgeon Abhoy Coomar Sen, or until further orders.

Baboo Koonjo Behari Chuckerbutty, Head-Master, Government School, Ajudhya in the district of Bankoora, is appointed to be a member of the Committee for the management of the Charitable Dispensary at that place.

Boboo Koomudnath Mookerjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Pooree, is appointed to be a member of the Pooree Lodging-house Committee, *vice* Baboo Mohanund Gupta, transferred.

Sugeon G. R. Daphtary, 3rd Regiment, Native Infantry, is appointed temporarily to have medical charge of the Lock-hospital at Dinapore, *vice* Surgeon W. Gillies transferred.

JUDICIAL.—Baboo Gonesh Chunder Chowdry, First Subordinate Judge of Chittagong on leave is appointed to be Subordinate Judge of Rajshahye.

Baboo Jodu Nath Mullick, Subordinate Judge and Judge of the Court of Small Causes Rajshahye on leave is appointed to be First Subofdinate Judge of Chittagong.

Baboo Kally Prosonno Mookerjee Officiating Second Subordinate Judge Burdwan is allowed leave for thirty-two days under Rule 1 Section 31 of the Civil Leave Code with effect from the 26th instant.

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The Transfer Register will remain closed from the 13th to the 20th instant.

M. RUSTOMJEE,
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District Engineer's Office
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R. S. GLOSER.
District Engineer.

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The regular use of this powder is sure to cure all diseases of the gums, cures ulceration, prevents bleeding, sweetens the breath, perfectly cleanses the teeth of tartar and all other noxious matters and renders them pearl white.

Price per Box 8 Annas. Postage &c., 8 Annas
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CURE FOR HYDROCELE

If the disease be of one years standing, the use of one box only of this medicine is sure to cure. If it be of long standing, the regular use of the medicines for a longer period will cure 90 cases out of 100, and it is warranted to remove all complications such as fever, debility &c. however long they may have existed. In also restores the virile powers which have been lost ot account of the malady.

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C. K. SEN. & CO.'S
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The regular use of this invaluable oil most certainly cures baldness and prevents the hair from falling off or turning prematurely grey. It cures diseases of the head and brain and strengthens weak and failing eyesight. It possesses a very sweet odour.

Price per Bottle Re. 1. Postage &c., 10 As.
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C. K. SEN & CO. 'S
Superior & Genuine Makaradhwaja.

This is one of the most potent medicines of the Hindu Pharmacopœa, never fails to produce the most satisfactory results in cases of debility from whatever cause arising seminal, constitutional or otherwise. It acts like a charm in typhus or typhoid fevers, chronic diarrhœa, habitual, constipation, gleat, gonorrhœa, spermatorrhœa, female complaints after delivery, weakness of the brain from excessive mental labor, and in all complaints to which the persons of sedentary habits are especially subject.

Price 7 grains per Rupee or Rs. 24 per Tolah.
Postage 4 As.

All the above preparations are perfectly innocuous and may be taken by persons of all sexes and ages with perfect safety.

BINOD LAL SEN, KOBIRAJ,
Manager.

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BY SPECIAL APPOINTMENT
To His Excellency the Right Honorable
LORD LYTTON, G.M.S.I.
VICEROY AND GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF INDIA,
&c., &c., &c.,
BATHGATE & CO.,
PHARMACEUTICAL CHEMISTS.
CALCUTTA.

Have received fresh supplies of the following :

Mrs. S. A. Allen's Hair Restorer.

It never fails to restore Grey Hair to its Youthful color and Beauty. It is not a Dye, and will not stain the skin or the most delicate Head dress.

Price 4 cash 5 credit.

Gallup's Mexican Hair Renewer.

For renewing and restoring the Hair, for preventing Dandriff, and the Hair from falling out.

Price 2-8 cash 3 credit.

Sandell's Hair Restorer.

Is totally different from any other kind and has been pronounced by the Medical Profession to be perfectly harmless.

Small Size 1-4 cash 1-8 credit.
Large Size 2-4 cash 3 credit.

Langdale's Imperial Hair Restorer.

For restoring Grey Hair to its original color.

Price 2 cash 2-8 credit.

Rossetter's Hair Restorer.

It promotes the growth and strength of the Hair giving it the Lustre and Health of youth.

Price 2-8 cash 3 credit.

B. & Co.'s Cantharidine Hair Stimulant.

Cantharidine (the active Crystalline principle obtained from the Spanish fly) has long been known as the most efficacious application for producing a luxuriant and healthy growth of hair.

The Stimulant renders the Hair beautifully soft, glossy, and luxuriant, also entirely removes all dandriff. It is the very best known preparation for causing new Hair to grow on Bald Spots, unless the Hair Glands are decayed or gone, when no Stimulant can restore them ; but if, as is very often the case, the Hair Glands are only torpid, Bathgate's Cantharidine Hair Stimulant will then renew their vitality, and a new growth of Hair will follow. It is without exception the most cooling, agreeable, safe, and successful application ever offered to the Indian Public, a perfect luxury for the Toilet in the hot season, preventing headache, which so many of the Hair preparations containing lead and other metallic poisons tend to produce.

Price, per bottle, Rs. 3 ; per ½ dozen bottles, Rs. 15 cash.

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HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF ABERCORN, K.G.

General Court of Directors.

Right Hon'ble Lord Lawrence, G.C.B., G.C.S.I., & P.C., Chairman.

Report by the Directors

PRESENTED TO THE

Sixty-eighth Annual General Meeting of the Company

Held at Edinburgh on Friday, 5th April 1878.

The Directors submit the following Report on the business done by the Company during the year which closed on the 31st December last :—

Life Business.

During the year 1877 there have been issued 1026 Policies, assuring £1,003.580, the new Premiums on which amount to £32,049 : 10 : 5.

The Claims which occurred during the year, including 10 Endowments, were 280 in number, arising under 341 Policies, and the sums which became payable on account of these amount with Bonus additions, to the sum of £299,863 : 10 : 6.

As will be seen from the State of Affairs annexed, the Life Assurance Fund now amounts to £2,711,876:11:7, being £105,446 : 17 : 10 above what it was on 31st December 1876. The whole of this fund is separately invested, and, by Act of Parliament, set aside to meet the claims under that Department of the Company's business.

After paying the Dividend, the Reserve Fund will amount to £794,576: 19 : 11, and the Premium Reserve to £302,671, 8s. 5d., together amounting to £1,017,248 : 8 : 4. At 31st December 1876 these Funds amounted to £1,082,768 : 11 : 10, showing an increase this year of £14,479 : 16 : 6.

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CHIEF OFFICE FOR INDIA.
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E. T. Roberts, Esq., Solicitor.
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THE
INFALLIBLE PAIN-CURER.

Warranted to cure pains of every description arising from whatever cause, on any part of the human frame. A certain cure for Pains in the Back, Lumbago, Pains in the Chest, Sore Throats, Coughs, Colds, Tightness of the Chest, Headache, Neuralgia, Colics, Rheumatism, Paralysis, Pains in the Groins, Contracted Joints, Gout, Swellings, Old Sores, Piles, Ringworm, Pimples, Freckles, or spots on the face, and Eruptions on the Skin.

Pains of every description have been cured by the outward application only of this medicine, when all the skill of the medical art has been tried without effect.

Per bottle Re. 1 ; Large size Rs. 2. packing & postage As. 8,

DARLINGTON & CO.
49, Dhurrumtollah-Street, Calcutta.

☞ Call for DARLINGTON'S PAIN-CURER. Thousands of Testimonials of the marvellous cures by this remedy.

The following is from an influential zemindar, the Vice-Chairman of the Municipality of Barisaul, and one who writes after taking from us 9 bottles of the Infallible Pain-Curer.

MESSRS. DARLINGTON & Co., 49 Dhurrumtollah Street, Calcutta.

Dear Sirs.—Please send me two bottles more (large size) of your Infallible Pain-Curer. I am happy to observe that I have witnessed beneficial results from its application. Some of my friends used it, and I also gave to some of my servants, I was pleasingly surprised to see that in every instance it kept true to its name.—Yours faithfully.

EDWARD BROWN.

Rev. Mother of St. Joseph's Convent, Baudora, Bombay Presidency, writes :

Dear Sirs,—We find the Infallible Pain-Curer efficacious, and are glad to know of it as being a useful medicine.

I remain, Yours truly, SISTER THEODORINE,
Superioress F. de la Croix.

Gentlemen,—I herewith send you the value and shall feel obliged by your sending me by post another bottle (large size) of the Infallible Pain-Curer. I find that the medicine is doing me great deal of good.

CHINTAMAN SAKHARAM CHITNIS. Subordinate Judge.
Kaira, Guzrath, Bombay Presidency.

Dear Sirs,—Your Infallible Pain-Curer, which was sent to Baboo Rajkisore Chatterjee, Toondla, has done him good, and he writes me to send him another bottle as early as possible. Will you have the goodness to send up without delay another bottle (large size) of the same sort you forwarded last time to him.

Yours faithfully,
KISORY MOHUN CHATTERJEE, 4 Fairlie Place, Calcutta.

Gentlemen,—Lately I had taken from you a bottle of your famous "No More Pains" which has almost relieved me of all my pains. I beg to enclose a remittance in postage stamps, and hope you will be pleased to send me another bottle of the same medicine.

Yours faithfully, RAJENDRO NATH CHATTERJEE, Hallisahur Khasbatty, *via* Kanchrapurah, Camp Rungown.

Gentlemen,—I enclose Telegraph Stamps, and beg you will kindly send me another bottle of your "Infallible Pain-Curer," which is undoubtedly worthy of its name.

Yours faithfully.
P. THORPE, No. 39 Anderson Street, Black Town, Madras.

ARTIFICIAL TEETH.

Messrs. J. CORFIELD & Co.'s

ARTIFICIAL TEETH.

Are the best substitute for the natural organs,

SECURING WITHOUT THE SLIGHTEST PAIN OR INCONVENIENCE, THE GREATEST AMOUNT OF EASE AND COMFORT.

They are the lightest, strongest, and most durable that can be produced, and are retained in the mouth without large and cumbersome plates, or unsightly wires and springs.

They admit of the perfect mastication of all kinds of food ; they improve articulation, and completely remove that prematurely old appearance so apparent in the faces of those who have had the misfortune to lose their natural teeth.

Repairs of all kinds executed at the shortest notice. Teeth extracted, Regulated, Scaled, or Filled with gold or other stoppings.

ON THE MOST REASONABLE TERMS.

CONSULTATION FREE.

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JEWELLERS AND SILVERSMITHS, CALCUTTA.

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SILVER MEDALS.

Suitable for presentation to Students and successful Prize-winners.

We would mention that the Designs & ornamentation in these Medals are not engraved, but are raised in high relief, which produces a much handsomer effect.

The prices quoted are for Medals and cases only. Any engraving or inscription which may be ordered to be cut upon them will be subject to a further charge, varying according to the cost of production.

The "Star and Crown" Medal Rs. 16

Back left quite plain for engraving.

The "Temple of Fame" Medal,	1¾ inches	Rs. 22
The "Triumph of Industry" Medal,	1¼ "	" 16
The "Laurel Wreath" Medal,	1¼ "	" 14
Plain Silver Medals,	1¼ inches diameter	Rs. 11 in case.
" " "	1½ "	" 15 "

Silver Medals with wreath on each side, 1¾ inches diameter Rs. 20

Each complete in morocco case.

Gold Medals we make to order, at prices ranging from Rs. 50 to 200.

HAMILTON & Co.
WATCH AND CLOCK MAKERS,
Calcutta.

SPECIFIC FOR DYSMENORRHŒA
OR
PAINFUL MENSTRUATION (বাধক বেদনা)

A single administration during menses generally cures the disease and brings on conception."

For particulars apply to Dr. Bhoobun Mohun Sircar, No. 77, Mooktaram Baboo's Street, Chore Bagan, Calcutta.—**Price Rs. 3-8,**

Sole Agents. B. M. SIRCAR. & Co.

DR. S. L. MULLICK'S CURATIVE TINCTURE,
OR SPECIFIC FOR CHOLERA.

Specific in Cholera and other Spasmodic bowel complaints.

Price 1 oz. bottle ... Re. 1-4 Cash,
" ½ oz. " .. ... 0-12 Cash.

Postage and Packing charge 4 (four annas) for Moffusil on each bottle. To be had at People'sMedical Hall No. 31, Rutton Sircar's Garden Street, Calcutta.

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